

the Hippo

DECEMBER 15- 21, 2016

A HISTORIC
HOLIDAY P. 28

A WEEKEND OF
COMEDY & MUSIC P. 60

LOCAL NEWS, FOOD, ARTS AND ENTERTAINMENT



INSIDE: DINE OUT OR TAKE OUT FOR CHRISTMAS

Crossing the empathy barrier

Fences have always challenged me. As a native Californian, I first visited New England in 1965 and marveled that there were so few fences or walls between houses.

"Why don't you have them?" I asked. "Because," my hosts replied, "we like to talk with our neighbors." I came back to California and naively suggested my folks take down their fences. "But if we did," my father countered, "we and they wouldn't know where our property lines were."

That episode came to mind last night as a married gay friend of mine shared with me her concern about the prospect of moving with her spouse into a new neighborhood. What would be the reaction of the neighbors to their arrival when, perhaps, their expectation would have been for a prototypical heterosexual couple with 2.5 children? As she unpacked her concern, more than simple anxiety — rather, genuine fear — revealed itself.

"My goodness, I'd never even thought of such a thing!" was my immediate reaction.

But that was just the point. In our ever more technologically connected world, where events and thoughts can go viral in a nano-second, we've perhaps become inured to the real experiences of those right next door or in our neighborhood. Yes, we may acknowledge them as we roll out our rubbish bins each week, but beyond that, what do we know of their lived experience? Whether it's their sexual orientation, color of skin, religious practice, or even the political signs they may put out on their lawns, our sense of them is rarely more than superficial.

The events of the recent political campaign and election season have brought home dramatically the rifts that exist in our society. Fenced in — not with wood or stone walls — we often live our lives in the company of those who see the world as we do, follow similar media outlets, socialize with those who understand us, and probably vote as we do.

Yes, occasionally, and perhaps more frequently, we feel sympathy for those whose lives are different from ours. We contribute to "worthy causes," ones designed to give those less fortunate than ourselves some glimpse of the world we inhabit. We write checks, we donate clothes and goods, and occasionally volunteer time. Yet rarely do we have the opportunity to cross the empathy barrier and truly "walk in their moccasins." That can come only if we are willing to take the risk of trying to hold a conversation as equals — as part of the Americanism we both share — and seek not to convince but to understand.

Building fences would be a dangerous approach — at this time especially.

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ON THE COVER**12 THE NEXT BIG THING**

There are game-changing innovations being developed all over the state, and we found a dozen of the coolest, biggest things, from high-tech prosthetics to money-saving software. We even found a few kids who are making waves with their inventions.



ALSO ON THE COVER, have yourself a historic holiday at Strawberry Bank, p. 28. Find out where you can dine out on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day, plus where you can pick up food to bring home, starting on p. 40. Plan your nightlife, starting on p. 60.

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Celebrate Christmas at Grace Episcopal Church

106 Lowell Street (Corner of Pine St.)

603-622-9813

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Sunday, December 18

Christmas Lessons & Carols 4:00 pm

Dec. 24 – Christmas Eve

Children's Service, 4:00 pm

Christmas Hymns & Choral Anthems, 7:30 pm

Festival Choral Service with Eucharist, 8:00 pm

Silent Night: A Quiet Christmas Eve Service,

11:00pm

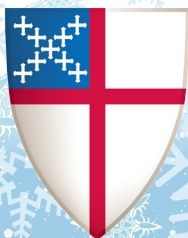
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Statehouse leaders

According to a press release, Republican state Sen. Chuck Morse was confirmed for a second term as Senate president. Following the vote, he announced his leadership team for the upcoming session will include Sen. Sharon Carson of Londonderry as Senate pro tempore, Sen. Jeb Bradley of Wolfeboro returning as majority leader and Sen. Gary Daniels of Milford as Senate finance chair.

Sen. Andy Sanborn of Bedford will serve as chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, a key body that determines how much can be spent based on tax revenue estimations.

Bradley will also serve as chair of the Health and Human Services Committee and Carson will chair the Judiciary Committee.

Sen. Regina Birdsell of Hampstead, who will also be on Morse's leadership team, will chair both the Transportation Committee and the Election Law and Internal Affairs Committee. Sen. Kevin Avard will chair the Energy and Natural Resources Committee and the Rules and Enrolled Bills Committee, which only meets as needed. Sen. John Reagan will lead the Education Committee.

Morse selected newly elected Senator-elect Dan Innis to chair Commerce and incoming Senator-elect James Gray to chair the Public and Municipal Affairs Committee.

Of note, the only Democrat selected to chair a committee is Manchester's Sen. Lou D'Allesandro, who will lead the Capital Budget Committee.

Natural gas

Governor-elect Chris Sununu, a Republican, is planning to prioritize his "political capital" to back projects aimed at bringing more natural gas into the state, NHPR reported. Speaking to business leaders, he said he would fight to ensure a natural gas project succeeds so long as it has local input and is a good deal for the state. Energy providers say the natural gas distribution infrastructure needs to be improved in order to stabilize energy costs, especially during times of high demand. A proj-

ect proposed by Kinder Morgan that would have installed a major pipeline was scrapped in the face of vocal opposition. Sununu said that plan wasn't right for New Hampshire.

Bus drivers

A planned strike by bus drivers across the state has been called off as the drivers' union agreed to a new five-year contract with the employer, First Student, the AP reported. The deal resolved a labor dispute that was simmering for weeks by increasing wages and paying more into retirement funds. Union members had agreed to strike and a work stoppage was all but imminent when talks resumed in Washington, D.C., and later in New Hampshire. First Student supplies bus drivers for dozens of school districts in the state.

Obamacare

More than 10,000 New Hampshire residents got insurance through the Obamacare website Healthcare.gov during the start of the open enrollment period, according to a press release from the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services. The total number of Granite Staters who signed up was 10,554. They were part of 2.1 million in 39 states who bought insurance through the government exchange. The enrollments took place between Nov. 1 and Nov. 26, the first four weeks of the open enrollment period.

Dartmouth CEO

Dr. James Weinstein, the CEO of Dartmouth-Hitchcock Medical Center, announced plans to retire at the end of his term on June 30, 2017, according to a press release from the Dartmouth board of trustees. Weinstein gave the board's leadership a heads-up on his decision in 2015. After he steps down at the end of his contract, he will continue to work in a clinical capacity at D-H and will keep his academic position at the medical school's Department of Orthopaedics and as chair of Evaluative Clinical Sciences at the school. Weinstein has served as CEO and president of D-H since 2011. A search committee is being formed to find a replacement.

Human trafficking

The U.S. Department of Justice is awarding a \$1.3 million grant that will support efforts by the state's human trafficking task force and build the state's capacity to combat human trafficking, according to a press release from United States Attorney Emily Gray Rice. Rice said she was looking forward to working with law enforcement on the issue and Manchester Police Chief Nick Willard said his department was proud to be a part of the collaborative task force. The grant request was jointly submitted by the MPD and Child and Family Services of New Hampshire on behalf of the task force.

DNC chair bid

New Hampshire Democratic Party Chairman Ray Buckley is vying to lead the national party and has the backing of each Democratic congressional delegate, according to an NHDP press release. In a joint statement, Sen. Jeanne Shaheen, Senator-elect Maggie Hassan, Congresswoman Annie Kuster and returning Congresswoman Carol Shea-Porter praised Buckley for building the state party into a strong grassroots organization and credited him with contributing to Democratic victories this year and in 2014. Buckley is running against Minnesota Rep. Keith Ellison and South Carolina party chair Jaime Harrison.

The town operating budget in **Canterbury** is estimated to come in close to \$2.52 million, a 2-percent increase, according to the Concord Monitor. The impact on the tax rate is still unknown. A meeting between the budget committee and the select board is scheduled for Jan. 3.

While Eversource Energy tries to find a buyer for the power plant in **Bow**, it's making money through the forward capacity market. In an interview with the Concord Monitor, Eversource President Bill Quinlan said Merrimack Station makes "high tens of millions of dollars" each year just for staying ready to run, though it runs sparingly these days.

HOPE for New Hampshire Recovery celebrated the grand opening of its new location in **Manchester** on Dec. 9, according to a press release from the governor's office. The addiction recovery organization's new home is in the first floor of 267 Wilson St., the former Hoitt Furniture building.

According to multiple reports, Saint Anselm College student and **Chester** native Lauren Batchelder, 19, has been the target of vicious and ongoing online harassment after Donald Trump tweeted about her, calling Batchelder nasty because she questioned whether Trump was a friend to women in a forum last year. She stayed quiet about the abuse until she agreed to a recent interview with the Washington Post.

Kelly's farewell

Outgoing Republican Sen. Kelly Ayotte made her farewell remarks on the U.S. Senate floor, thanking the people of the state for the opportunity to serve them. She thanked her family and staff and thanked fellow New Hampshire Senator and Democrat Jeanne Shaheen for her "dedication and service." During

Ayotte's speech she warned against harmful cuts to the U.S. military and releasing prisoners from Guantanamo Bay, Cuba. Her remarks were followed up by well-wishing statements from Shaheen, Democratic Sen. Claire McCaskill of Missouri, Sen. John McCain of Arizona and Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina. 🌊

BEST WEEK

LAND AND HISTORY

New Hampshire's Land and Community Heritage Investment Program has awarded 35 programs a total of \$3.25 million in grants to protect and preserve natural, cultural and historical resources, according to a press release. The LCHIP grants ranged from \$7,000 to \$500,000 and include 19 historic resource projects and 16 natural resource projects across the state. The projects cover 4,600 acres, 12 miles of river fronts and seven farms. Historical projects with resources dating from the 18th to the 20th centuries will include things like an old hotel used for low-income elderly housing and a cemetery with Revolutionary War heroes buried in it. The state dollars are being matched by over \$20 million in matching funds from other sources. The \$500,000 grant was awarded to the Belknap County Economic Development Council to go toward renovating the Colonial Theater in Laconia.

WORST WEEK

COLLEGE LAYOFFS

In an effort to close a major budget deficit, Colby-Sawyer College in New London announced plans to lay off 18 people, the AP reported. The school is facing a \$2.6 million operating loss in the current year and that follows two consecutive years of \$2 million in losses each year. The layoffs will include seven faculty members (about 10 percent) and 11 staff members, according to college President Sue Stuebner. In addition to the layoffs, another 11 employees will see reduced hours and more than a dozen vacated positions will not be re-filled. The loss has been attributed to a drop in enrollment. The school has 400 fewer students compared to enrollment four years ago.

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NEWS

Wildlife 2016

An update on NH's animal happenings

By Ryan Lessard
news@hippopress.com

Ticks

Ticks have been growing in number in the past several years but the good news is a severe and longstanding drought in southern New Hampshire may have decimated the black-legged tick population in the affected regions. Black-legged ticks are the species that transmit Lyme disease.

Entomologist Alan Eaton said he expects numbers to be greatly reduced judging by field samples he collected in October.

Samples submitted to him by residents also went down this year, but he noticed a troubling trend with those samples.

"One thing that did happen that's a bit disturbing ... was every single specimen from Oct. 1 until today has been engorged," Eaton said.

That tells him too few people are doing body checks and catching ticks early. Lyme disease is typically only transmitted if the tick is attached to a host for 36 to 48 hours, according to the U.S. Centers for Disease Control.

While Eaton expects reduced black-legged tick exposure for humans and animals alike in spring 2017, how mild this winter is will have a big impact on that.

As long as there's a long-lasting snow cover, ticks will remain dormant beneath. But if the snow cover melts and temperatures rise to 40 degrees or above, they could become active again, even in winter. If snow cover melts but temperatures drop, that could kill more black-legged ticks.

Winter ticks, the scourge of New Hampshire moose, are already feeding on their host at this point in the year. If warm temperatures persist through November and early December, that gives more time for winter tick larvae to jump on the bandwagon. If the snow hasn't melted by the time ticks fall off their hosts to lay eggs (usually January through March) they likely won't survive, and vice versa.

Distemper

Fish and Game wildlife biologist Pat Tate said canine distemper (caused by a virus that affects foxes, coyotes and dogs) has been identified in foxes.

The brain of one dead fox tested positive for distemper in early 2016 and since then there have been approximately seven other cases Tate is aware of with foxes displaying distemper symptoms.

"I'd absolutely say that's more than normal," Tate said.

Symptoms include disorientation, unusu-



al friendliness and risky behavior like standing in the middle of a road. While foxes are generally nocturnal, seeing them active in the daytime doesn't on its own signify infection. Some foxes will search for food for their young during the day fairly commonly in the spring and summer months.

If you see a fox suspected to be infected, you should stay away and protect your pets. The disease can be often fatal for dogs.

Fox populations have been increasing, based on trapping numbers, Tate said. And diseases like distemper thrive on population density, so it's possible it could be fairly widespread.

Other diseases like mange might also be going around.

A photograph of a sickly canine posted to Facebook in June by the Merrimack police chief had some folks fearing the mythical chupacabra.

Tate says that it's been his professional experience that a so-called "chupacabra" is always a coyote or fox with mange. The loss of fur changes the animal's appearance to make them appear almost alien.

Coyotes or coywolves?

You've probably heard a neighbor or friend complaining about an apparent increase in coyote activity in the woods near their home. Some say the animals are actually coywolves, hybrids of wolves and coyotes.

Tate said eastern coyotes common to New Hampshire woods are distinct from western coyotes because they are believed to have interbred with red wolves over the course of several decades during their trek eastward. So in a sense, all coyotes in New

Water fluoridation

A minimalist, large-scale way to help our teeth

By Ryan Lessard
news@hippopress.com

Small amounts of fluoride in drinking water have been shown to improve oral health, according to Hope Saltmarsh, the oral health program director at the state Department of Health and Human Services.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently awarded six of New Hampshire's 10 communities with water fluoridation programs its Water Quality Fluoridation Award. Water works departments in Manchester, Concord, Dover, Laconia, Lebanon and Lancaster were recognized for maintaining the target balance of fluoride levels through 2015.

"Fluoride is a very important aspect of keeping teeth healthy because it helps to make the enamel of the teeth stronger and more resistant to the decay process," Saltmarsh said.

When the fluorides interact with our teeth, they act as microscopic masons, repairing tiny cracks and dents in the walls of our teeth, the enamel. That constant resurfacing and repair work (remineralization) slows down and guards against erosion (demineralization) from the acids we consume.

That's no small thing for enamel. "Natural enamel is very strong. It's the strongest part of your body. It's stronger than your bones," Saltmarsh said.

The task for public water systems that fluoridate water is to strike the right balance. Fluoride is a natural substance already found in water, air and soil, so we are exposed to a certain amount of it already, and public health officials take that into account. Too little fluoride and our teeth's repairmen will be understaffed; too much and it could lead to conditions like fluorosis, which only affects children (usually around 9 years old) whose teeth haven't erupted yet and will make their teeth speckled from an uneven distribution of minerals on the enamel.

In 2015, national public health officials set .7 milligrams per liter as the optimal level for fluoride in drinking water. Prior to that, the standard was a range from .7 mgpl to 1.2 mgpl. Saltmarsh said the change was due to the growing number of other fluoride sources that people are exposed to.

While some conspiracy theorists believe water fluoridation is bad for various reasons, Saltmarsh said the science demonstrating its benefits is not in dispute. The CDC calls it the one of the top 10 public health achievements of the 20th century. And for every \$1 of community investment in fluoridation, they save \$38 in dental treatment costs.

Besides the six communities awarded by the CDC, public drinking water fluoridation programs are also in Durham, Rochester, Portsmouth and Hanover (while some neighboring communities might benefit as well), according to Saltmarsh.

With 47 percent of residents receiving fluoridated water, more than half — many of whom are on private wells — do not. That's compared to 75 percent who receive fluoridated water nationwide.

The remaining majority of the state doesn't necessarily need to worry about tooth decay, however. Some wells may already have a sufficient level of naturally occurring fluorides.

To be sure, residents can have their tap water tested at the State Lab. A standard analysis costs \$85 and a fluoride-only test is \$12. Call 271-3445 for more info about water testing.

If your water's fluoride levels are low, you can get fluoride supplements, which are recommended for children when levels are .3 parts per million (roughly equivalent to milligrams per liter) or less.

The American Dental Association also recommends children brush twice a day with fluoridated toothpaste (about the size of a rice grain for kids 3 years old or younger) as soon as teeth begin to come in. Increase toothpaste to about the size of a pea for kids age 3 to 6. 🐾

Hampshire could be called coywolves.

They first appeared in the 1940s, and by the 1970s they were ubiquitous.

But are there more of them? Tate says not really.

It may seem that way anecdotally, but trapping figures show populations have remained steady since they reached capacity in the 1970s.

One thing that's changed in the past decade or so, Tate says, is the trend of calling them coywolves. That, he said, might be inciting more alarm, given the negative associations we have with wolves.

"It creates a public alarm, but people don't realize they've been living next to these animals for over 40 years," Tate said.

Birdfeeders

While Fish and Game annually reminds residents to take down their birdfeeders starting in April, so they don't attract bears, this is about the time of year it's OK to start putting them back up. Fish and Game spokesperson Jane Vachon said Dec. 1 through early spring is the ideal time to have birdfeeders up. 🐾

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Complex lawyer

Local biz lawyer gets international award

Sari Ann Strasburg of Bedford was recently recognized with the 2016 Global Legal Award as the Best Complex Business Lawyer in New Hampshire by Acquisition International magazine. She has 30 years of legal experience with international manufacturing, technology and distribution companies. Strasburg runs her private practice, Strasburg Law, and is also a certified public accountant.

Q: *What was your first job as a lawyer and what did that involve?*

My very first job as a lawyer, I worked for the city of ... Newton, Massachusetts, and it was a summer job while I was in law school. So, that's really going back a long time. ... I went through ordinances and wrote up some memos and it was a summer job so you pretty much do what you're asked to do. ... Actually, you know what ... my first legal job was I worked for an attorney in Faneuil Hall and he did a lot of collections work and bankruptcy work and I don't even remember what I did for him.

How did you become interested in these other fields and work your way up to things like international business law?

I am a CPA and I went to the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania, for my bachelor of science in economics, and I was an accounting major. While I was taking all the accounting courses — and back then, there were very few women taking accounting courses — during that time, one of the professors that came in was actually a business lawyer, and he dealt with a number of different topics. And for me it was extremely interesting. So I was able to take that, which really sparked some curiosity, and from that decided, OK, maybe I really want to look at becoming an attorney. ... I went to Boston University for law school and I took, I think, all of the tax classes that they had back then, graduated from law school and actually moved up to New Hampshire. ... And after working in Boston for about a year and a half or so, I came up to New Hampshire and started working for what was then known as Coopers & Lybrand, which is now PricewaterhouseCoopers. I worked in the tax department, and when I left Coopers, I was a tax manager.

At some point you broke off on your own?

Yes, for a period of time I was in-house general counsel for the Velcro Companies



Courtesy photo.

for 10 years and ... in 2000 I left Velcro and went with a regional law firm, and in 2003 set up my own practice, and I've been on my own since then.

What are some examples of strategic work you're most proud of?

I've developed global licensing programs for clients, I've managed trademarks around the world and really beefed up the trademark protection that would be offered to those clients. I've worked with a number of companies on their manufacturing and supply chain issues, really to streamline — especially in manufacturing when you've got ... raw materials coming in one door and your manufacturing and packaging and marketing and those products go out the other end. And also, I do a lot of work with software licensing. ... The companies that I work with are generally ... working with the Fortune 100, Fortune 500. So, for example, I work with one company who ... develops various programs and processing for multinational financial and Fortune 100 customers.

So what are the things you're bringing to the table?

I have a really good sense of what it is that company is asking for. So what happens over time is you really develop a shorthand. ... Because of my extremely strong business sense, the business side of it allows me to look at ... a particular transaction that a company wants to do and say, 'I understand what you're asking for, I understand what your end result is. Let's figure out how to get you there in the way that makes the most sense.'

What's something about your job that most people don't realize?

I think there's a perception that lawyers who work on business contracts and business transactions, that there's a shorthand out there that says lawyers get paid by the word. That we just want ... contracts to be really long because somehow we get paid more. That is one of those things that simply is not true. — Ryan Lessard

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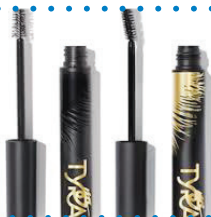
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QUALITY OF LIFE INDEX

Anonymous donor gives thousands to Food Bank

The New Hampshire Food Bank will receive \$100,000 from an anonymous donor in the form of matching grants for every donation, dollar for dollar, the Food Bank receives from now to the end of the year. The idea is to raise a total of at least \$200,000, which will pay for 400,000 meals for the thousands of food-insecure people living in the Granite State. The same anonymous donor has given \$175,000 in matching grants to the Food Bank over the past two years, which has helped raise \$350,000.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *There are 139,730 residents (41,350 of whom are children) who don't know where they're getting their next meal from.*

Intersection fix on its way

A dangerous intersection in Derry is slated for a \$1.2 million upgrade designed to make it much safer, according to an Eagle Tribune article. The intersection between Scobie Pond Road and English Range Road, which crosses over busy Bypass 28, was the site of 61 accidents over the past decade, including one fatal crash last year. The improvements are expected to include a new solid-light traffic signal, left turn lanes and a right turn lane onto English Range Road. Department of Transportation officials held hearings about the proposed upgrades at the Derry Municipal Center.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *There's currently only a blinking yellow traffic light over that intersection.*

Giving spirit

The Barnes & Noble Holiday Book Drive to collect texts for the Manchester school district saw a wonderful act of generosity a couple weeks ago, when New Hampshire resident Ken Grant came into the store and bought about 160 books, worth \$1,500. The store holds the drive annually for the Manchester school district, but Manchester Barnes & Noble Community Business Development Manager Nathan Robbins said this has been the most successful yet. "He came in on Saturday and cleared out the table we had out front," Robbins said via phone. "He's a very regular customer, and he said, if it will help the schools, that's what he wanted to do. It was a great gesture of generosity, for the schools and the store."

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *The purchased books are those hand-picked by Queen City teachers, from hardcover nonfiction texts to middle-school chapter books, priced \$3.99 to \$40. All will go straight to the city's school libraries.*

New year hikes

Five New Hampshire state parks are offering free admission for hikers on New Year's Day, in addition to guided hikes as part of America's State Parks' First Day Hike initiative, according to NHPR. They include Monadnock State Park in Jaffrey, Silver Lake State Park in Hollis, Weeks State Park in Lancaster, Wellington State Park in Alexandria and Wentworth-Coolidge Mansion State Historic Site in Portsmouth. They range from 1 to 3.2 miles long, and hikers can register to participate at nhstateparks.org.

QOL Score: +1

Comment: *QOL thinks fresh air in New Hampshire's state parks is a great way to start off the new year.*

QOL score: 81

Net change: +4

QOL this week: 85

What's affecting your Quality of Life here in New Hampshire? Let us know at news@hippopress.com.

75

50



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It's 12 days of Christmas for Red Sox Nation



Christmas came three weeks early for the Red Sox, on Dec. 6, to be precise, when Baseball Ops chief **Dave Dombrowski** won the **Chris Sale** sweepstakes to put an inexpensive, top-five-in-baseball lefty hurler into the

rotation with Cy Young winners **Rick Porcello** and **David Price**. It gives them potentially the best top rotation Big 3 since **Roy Halladay**, **Cliff Lee** and **Cole Hamels** pitched for Philly in 2011. And while you heard a smattering of Chicken Little-esque whines about gutting the system, the reception was generally more like disbelief that they got **Sale**.

Thus that deal and the same-day acquisition of eighth-inning guy **Tyler Thornburg** were major presents from the baseball gods to make Red Sox Nation's holiday season more like the 12 days of Christmas. So, here are a few more thoughts on its overall impact along that line.

1st Day – The Hype Machine: There's nothing like Boston's hype machine and it put these moves on par with **Lucky Lindy's** landing in Paris. But I will point out if Price and Porcello spit the bit in Games 1 and 2 again in the 2017 playoffs, they'd still be in a major hole with Sale starting Game 3. Plus, the Giants, not those three great Philly starters, won the 2010 NL pennant. Translation: Pump the brakes just a bit.

2nd Day – The Eighth-Inning Guy: In today's micro-managed world, you've still got to get through the eighth and ninth innings to win, no matter how good the starters are. So while not as seismic, the Thornburg deal was still pretty important in the grand scheme. While 2016's 90 k's in 67 innings and 2.15 ERA were impressive, it's the only shutdown season in five on his resume, so he's no sure thing. But it was his first full bullpen season after failing as a starter, so hopefully it's the start of something good.

3rd Day – What Did They Give Up? Base-

ball's top prospect, **Yoan Moncada**; their third-rated prospect, **Michael Kopech**; three other top 10's, one being .323-hitting shortstop **Mauricio Dubon**, and former 29th-round pick **Josh Pennington**, now being made out to be **Don Drysdale**. Those following these things closer than me say they gave up a lot. But you've got to give up something to get something, don't you?

4th Day – Violating My Cardinal Rule: As a rule I'd never trade A+ or A prospects because they help control the payroll by replacing good players whose market value exceeds their overall production. That edict was violated with Moncada, Kopech and **Anderson Espinoza** (the Pomeranz deal). But since low-cost alternatives are already in place at short and three outfield spots, **Dustin Pedroia** is signed for about 37 more years at a below-market rate and the top three rotation spots are filled with an untradeable contract (Price) and a vastly below-market one (Sale), most key positions are blocked for three years at least. That gives the farm system time to regenerate before it's really needed again.

5th Day – Enough Already: In the last year Dombrowski has given up six of his top 10 prospects. So enough already with dealing prospects, unless you want it to be like Detroit, where his dealing left the farm system barren.

6th Day – What's Left to Trade: Only **Traavis Shaw** was lost off the major-league roster, so the everyday lineup (minus **David Ortiz**) stays intact. And with seven starters and three more in the minors, **Clay Buchholz**, **Drew Pomeranz**, **Roenis Elias**, **Henry Owens** and lefty **Brian Johnson** are available to trade. There's also eighth-inning Tommy John'ed guy **Carson Smith**, when he's healthy.

7th Day – The Pressure's Off E-Rod: He was the golden boy with high expectations in 2016 that he did not meet. Now, he's a near afterthought fifth man in the rotation. For a guy with his talent, that's a prescription for success.

8th Day – I Told You So Award: I said in

a November 2015 column, **Dombo** should go after **Chris Sale** just after the Price signing. An e-mailer said I "must be on crack" if I thought they'd get Sale without giving up E-Rod. I also said that day **Joe Kelly** should be an eighth-inning guy, not a starter.

9th Day – Pitching Over Power: With the payroll up against the luxury tax line, the Sale, Thornburg and low-cost Gold Glove first baseman **Mitch Moreland** acquisitions likely mean they'll try to replace Ortiz's production with better pitching. Since Betts, Bogaerts and company could be even better, good move.

10th Day – What I Like Best About Dombo: He's a scout who evaluates based on what he sees, not by analytic stat geek numbers. Since giving up **Randy Johnson** 25 years ago, who has he given up in any deal besides **Andrew Miller**, who was released by Florida long before turning into the monster he is now? But even then, Detroit got **Miguel Cabrera**, who won a Triple Crown and two MVPs.

11th Day – Pressure's on Danny Ainge: The "it's hard to make a big deal" mantra coming from Causeway Street is going to get major blowback after what Dombrowski pulled off. Especially with the Celtics getting pounded nightly on the boards and still blowing big leads before losing.

12th Day – How Will History Judge This? It's going to take five years to judge the Sale deal. If he does what's expected — win between 16 and 20 three times — the only thing that will tilt it away from a big Red Sox deal is if Moncada turns into (gulp) **Willie Mays**. And since there's only been four of those (Mays, **Mickey Mantle, Jr.**, **Griffey** and maybe **Mike Trout**) in 65 years, who all were in the majors by 19, how likely is that? And since only **Jon Lester** and **Buchholz** have been solid starters drafted by the Red Sox in 20 years, what makes you think Kopech will be any different **Anthony Rizzo** or **Casey Fossum**?

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Winter season a go

The Big Story: The winter high school season is under way with the Central girls basketball team drawing first blood with a 58-39 clubbing of Salem when **Hannah McGrath** had high honors with 17 points and **Jen Chrabolowski** and **Keltina Francis** chipped in with 12 and 11 more respectively. The Derryfield boys also got off with a 77-30 pummeling of Gorham in their opener when **Sam Anderson** and **Jeff Pratt** each had 16 points to lead the way, while the D-field girls dropped to 0-2 with a 44-30 loss to Gorham.

Sports 101: Name the five NFL coaches with the most career losses.

Concord Connection of the Week: It was news that not too long after the Red Sox did not renew the contract of its Sports Brain Doctor **Bob Tewksbury** he signed on with the San Francisco Giants in a similar capacity. Tewksbury of course is from Concord, as is Giants President **Brian Sabean**.

Rumor Mill Cancelled: An entry on the possibility of local lad **Chip Kelly** flying back Oregon had barely hit the streets when it was debunked by the Ducks' hiring South Florida coach **Willie Taggart** to succeed **Mark Helfrich**. On a sad related note,

the Kelly family incidentally lost patriarch **Paul** last week at 87. Condolences to the Kelly family. RIP.

Sports 101 Answer: The top five losing coaches in NFL history may surprise you because all have taken teams to at least one Super Bowl, but remember, you have to be pretty good to hang around long enough to pile up the losses. (1) **Dan Reeves**, 190-165. (2) **Jeff Fisher**, 173-164. (3) **Tom Landry**, 250-162. (4) **Don Shula**, 328-156. (5) **Tom Coughlin**, 170-150. In case you're wondering, **Bill Belichick** has 115 losses against 233 wins.

On This Date – Dec. 15: 1980 – Dave Winfield signs a 10-year deal worth \$15 million to become the latest bauble in **George Steinbrenner's** collection of lavishly paid ballplayers. **1992 – Tennis** great and civil rights activist **Arthur Ashe** is named Sports Illustrated Sportsman of Year. **2010 – Iconic Cleveland Indian Bob Feller**, who joined the Navy the day after Pearl Harbor, dies at 92. **2011 – Barry Bonds** is sentenced to 30 days of house arrest for an obstruction of justice conviction stemming from his 2003 appearance before a grand jury regarding PED use in baseball. 🐾

The Numbers

4 – consecutive wins for your first-place Manchester Monarchs after a 5-3 win over the Norfolk Admirals on Friday at SNHU Arena when **Kevin Morris** led the way with a pair of goals.

19 – game-high points scored by **Sara Ryan** in leading a parade of four double-digit scorers in SNHU's 73-61 win over Stonehill at

the start of the week.

43 – margin of victory when St. Anselm me destroyed Assumption 105-62 on the road as they shot 60 percent from the field as **Harrison Taggart** scored 20 first-half point and 23 overall to be high man for the game, while **Tim Guers** went for an 18 (point), 10 (rebound) double-double.

60 – points scored by

Golden State Warrior bomber **Klay Thompson** in incredibly just 29 minutes of playing time and on only 33 shots, 22 of which he made.

60 – How-can-it-be years old the great **Larry Bird** turned last week on Dec. 7, a fitting day as he was a Pearl Harbor force to all teams around the NBA during his legendary 13-year career with the Celtics. 🐾

Sports Glossary

Lucky Lindy Landing in Paris: That would be pioneering aviator **Charles Lindbergh** completing his daring first solo flight across the Atlantic Ocean aboard The Spirit of St. Louis. He touched down at Le Bourget Aerodrome in Paris on May 21, 1927, some 33 hours and 30 minutes after leaving Roosevelt Field on Long Island the previous day.

Charles Lindbergh: Roaring 20s hero who New Hampshire authors **Gregory Ahlgren** and **Stephen Monier** allege in their book *Crime of the Century* faked the famed kidnapping of his own son, which sent **Bruno Hauptman** to the chair, after a sick practical joke to scare his wife took a tragic turn.

Don Drysdale: Below the Tarrier Line 1950s-'60s power pitcher for the Brooklyn and L.A. Dodgers. Won the 1962 Cy Young, 20 twice, struck out 200+ six times, pitched a record 58.2 consecutive scoreless innings in 1968 and threw over 300 innings four times. But after all those innings he was done at 32, though he still made the Hall despite a paltry 209 career wins. And, oh by the way, among his 29 career homers seven came in 1965 as he hit .300 with 19 RBI in 130 at-bats. That's .300-28-76 over a full year.

Junior Griffey: Poetry-in-motion, hat-on-backwards all-world talent who burst on the scene in 1989. Before it was over he was a 13-time All-Star with a non-steroid-tainted 630 career homers. Plus, he was born in Donora, Pennsylvania, where the great **Stan the man Musial** also was born.

WHERE ARE THEY NOW?

**LIZ HAZEL
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The 2016 Plymouth State Athletic Hall of Fame inductee was a dynamic skier during her four-year career with the nationally ranked Plymouth State team. Despite having to overcome a career-threatening leg injury in her first year, she led the ski team to two Eastern Regional Championships and one runner-up spot. During that time PSU competed in the US Collegiate Ski Association's national championship in four consecutive seasons. She capped off her senior year by earning All-American honors in the giant slalom.

**LIZ HAZEL SAVAGE
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There are countless cutting-edge start-ups and inventions developed in the Granite State. Here are a few that may help the environment, protect the vulnerable and broaden human understanding of the natural universe.

HARDWARE

LinkAlign-60EBP — more mobile data

There's a wireless frequency that could open up a whole lot more cell data bandwidth and provide incredible speeds. Engineers have known about it for about a decade but haven't been able to use it on cell towers to transmit over large distances because of the physical limitations involved — until now. The E-band frequency (between 70 and 80 gigahertz) presents opportunities and challenges in equal measure, but Milford-based NextMove Technologies found a way to overcome those challenges to create the opportunities.

VP of Business Development Ben Brown said the company has specialized in creating microwave transmitters — which look like convex dishes — for cell towers that can pivot and point to a line-of-sight target remotely (and even automatically self-correct when they fall out of alignment) since 2008, but their transmitters



Patriot 5510. Courtesy photo.

were always for traditional lower frequencies. That solved the problem of needing to send a tech climbing up a tower or using a bucket truck to manually adjust where the transmitters are pointed. But a client asked if they could do something that hadn't been done before: make an E-band transmitter using the same remote alignment technology.

The reason it was so hard was the narrowness of the beam. An E-band microwave is as narrow as the tip of a pencil, and since microwave beams use line of sight,

that pencil-thin beam needs to land on a target miles away that's the size of a pencil sharpener. Getting it set up like that in the first place isn't the hard part. It's been done before.

Keeping it steady is where things get tricky. When a microwave transmitter is installed on a tower, things like wind and the heat of the day expanding the tower's metal can drift the beam off its target.

Enter the LinkAlign-60EBP, which was a finalist in this year's NH High Tech Council Product of the Year competition.

EBP stands for E-band positioner.

"It was solving a specific problem, which was thermal expansion on cellular monopoles," Brown said.

Brown said it's almost like hiring a guy to sit up at the top of a tower 24/7 and constantly nudge the beam to its target as needed.

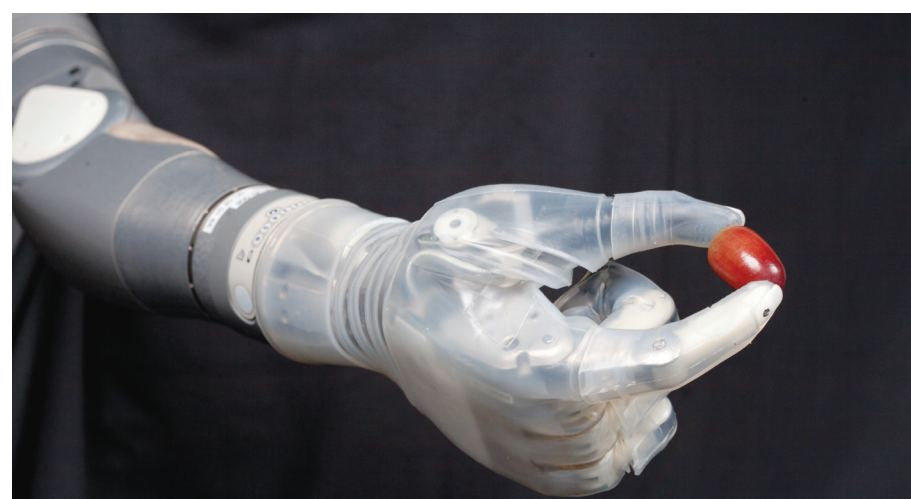
What's so great about microwave beams and cell towers, you ask? Three words: more mobile data. Brown said E-band is the fiber optic cable of radio frequency signals. In fact, Brown said it's better than fiber optics because it's a direct path from A to B. And its narrowness provides other benefits as well.

"It's so narrow that it has less probability of intercept, less probability of detection and less probability of interference," Brown said.

Not only would this provide faster speeds (10 gigabits per second!), but it could also help to stave off a looming data apocalypse as the growth of new data is expected to exceed the capacity allowed by modern technology.

"That's the whole idea for this," Brown said.

So far, this tech is only being applied in private networks by international financial firms and the like. There are about 100 links in cities like Chicago, London and New York.



The LUKE arm developed by DEKA Research & Development Corp. Reproduced with permission of DEKA Research & Development Corp.

Patriot 5510 — life support gear

Using today's first-responder gear, police officers, firemen or members of the armed forces might not have enough time to enter a hazardous environment and complete a mission. But the life support gear known as the Scott Hybrid Patriot 5510, developed by Wilcox in Newington, has the versatility to prepare soldiers and rescue personnel for almost any situation and can shift modes easily during the course of a mission.

Specifically, it offers respiratory options for some of the most dangerous environments, referred to as CBRN environments (places with chemical, biological, radiological or nuclear threats).

The system includes four alternate modes; a basic gas mask filter, a powered gas mask with an air pump, a compressed air breathing tank and a system that replaces the tank with air fed through a hose from a remote location.

"There is no other system to compare it to," said Wilcox project manager Tim West.

The ability to switch between the various modes with ease is no small feat. Now, if a time-sensitive mission requires life support equipment like this, soldiers can add precious minutes to available air pressure from a breathing tank by keeping it off and switching to the gas mask during the walks in and out of a hazardous zone.

First responders can even attach a modification that replaces one of the two air tanks with pure oxygen to fuel a cutting torch.

"I can be down there cutting and breathing at the same time on the same system," West said.

This is an evolutionary upgrade from a legacy version of the equipment Wilcox released after the 9/11 attacks. Not only is the ease of switching modes new; the development team partnered with Scott Safety, an industry leader in life support systems for firefighter gear and the like, to streamline the system and added Bluetooth technology that monitors the equipment's air levels, location and environmental sensors.

Those sensors can read the nature of dangerous gasses in the air and wind speeds. Using that data, authorities can better organize relief and evacuation efforts by avoiding the contaminated areas.

The Patriot 5510 won the NH High Tech Council's 2016 Product of the Year award.

LUKE Arm — high-tech prosthetic

The range of motion and grip power and an innovative array of customizable controls make the LUKE Arm, developed by DEKA Research & Development Corp., a generational shift in how prosthetic arms can change people's lives.

According to project manager Tom Doyon, LUKE is officially an acronym that stands for Life Under Kinetic Evolution, but the moniker owes its origin to a less formal nickname the engineers gave the project that references Luke Skywalker's robotic hand in *Star Wars: Episode V — The Empire Strikes Back*.

The prosthetic arm comes in three different configurations for right and left arms. They include a radial configuration for people who have elbows, humeral configurations for people who have part of their upper arm and no elbow and a shoulder configuration for people missing an entire arm. For each configuration, prosthetists will be able to customize the size and length for the individual.

One of the things that makes the arm such a game-changer is its 10 powered degrees of freedom, two of which are in the shoulder.

"It has a powered shoulder that has two degrees of freedom. There's no powered shoulders currently available for somebody who is losing their entire arm," Doyon said.

The arm's wrist flex motion is also an industry first since most robotic prosthetics can only rotate wrists.

All of this allows a user to do things like reach over their head around their back, lift groceries from the ground to the table or hold a glass of water overhead or at waist level without spilling it.

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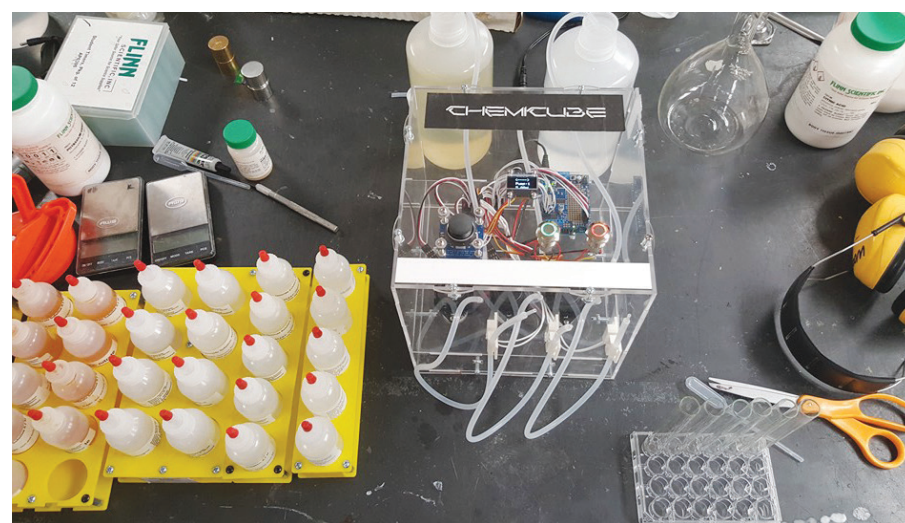
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ChemiCube. Courtesy photo.

approved the arm for commercial use in 2014, saying in a press release that it “may allow some people to perform more complex tasks than they can with current prostheses in a way that more closely resembles the natural motion of the arm.”

Doyon said it also comes with a grip-force feedback system that uses hand sensors and a vibrating warning system so users know when they might be squeezing something too hard.

The controls are also revolutionary. Doyon said the arm uses a combination of traditional bioelectric inputs and a new control system users can wear at their feet called an Inertial Measurement Unit. That makes the arm the first prosthetic arm to translate signals from a person’s muscles to perform tasks, including complex tasks. The arm is water- and dust-resistant and comes with a long-lasting lithium ion battery.

The LUKE Arm is set to enter the marketplace fairly soon. It will be sold by DEKA-affiliated company Mobius Bionics and retailed by prosthetic shops like Next-Step Bionics in Manchester, which DEKA consulted on the arm’s design.

“We are in the final stages of transitioning it to the commercial market,” Doyon said.

Plexxi Switch/Control — internet data manager

Nashua-based Plexxi Inc. won the 2015 Product of the Year for the revolutionary way it helps manage data on the internet and private wide area networks. It involves three parts: the first is the hardware component known as the Plexxi Switch 2, the second is the software called Plexxi Control and the third is a software platform that enables it to integrate into any other platform, Plexxi Connect. Think of that last part as a sort of universal translator.

Mike Welts, Plexxi’s VP of marketing, likes to use an analogy comparing internet traffic to highway traffic. In a sense, what Plexxi does is similar to what the Waze app does for commuters. It identifies traffic jams and helps to redirect traffic or widen lanes when needed so nothing gets slowed down.

It’s also unique in the way it allows different kinds of data to share the same virtual road space. Every other network and data platform provider essentially segregates each kind of data into its own network.

Not so with Plexxi’s system. Imagine lanes for different sizes of cars, a bike lane, a pedestrian lane, a motorcycle lane and a 16-wheeler lane all sharing the same highway. It’s way more efficient and way faster.

“It’s very unique. In fact, it’s pretty disruptive, which has been part of the challenge,” Welts said.

A network Plexxi set up in Wall Street takes up a few racks in a conference room and connects five continents. The same amount of data flowing over the same distances at the same speeds would normally require hundreds of racks in multiple data centers.

Welts said that their product, which received millions in investment capital from GV (formerly Google Ventures) in January, will go a long way toward modernizing an outdated data infrastructure at a time when we need it more than ever.

“Data is growing exponentially. It’s out of control ... and there’s no way that the legacy infrastructure can support the amount of data that’s out there now,” Welts said.

He said the future of data storage is in code, algorithms and cloud computing and is less reliant on the physical circuitry. This is another way to help the internet work smart, not hard.

KID-VENTIONS

Amazing Curb Climber — a better walker

What do you do when you’re a grade-schooler with cerebral palsy who has trouble getting your walker to traverse a simple curb? Invent a better walker, of course.

Sadie McCallum, 10, of Weare, did just that when she devised a new and improved walker with her little sister and co-inventor

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Claire, 6, and some material and construction help from her parents, according to mother Miriam McCallum.

"They work together really well," McCallum said of her daughters.

The walker works by having three wheels on each of the front legs on a rotating axis, so Sadie and other walker users can push the walker against the edge of a curb and roll to the upper level with ease.

Sadie was encouraged by a teacher to participate in the school's invention convention, organized by the Concord-based Academy of Applied Science. She was just 7 years old when she came up with the basic idea for what would become the Amazing Curb Climber, but due to serious surgery one year and family travel plans the next, Sadie couldn't participate in the convention until this year, when she unveiled her masterpiece.

After placing in the school's convention as a fourth-grader at the Center Woods Elementary School in Weare, Sadie competed at the regional convention at Merrimack Valley High School on March 26, where 230 inventors from 41 schools across the state showcased their creations.

At the regional convention, Sadie won a number of awards, including the Microsoft Technology Award and the award for a Special Needs Invention.

Miriam McCallum said when a doctor at Boston Children's Hospital saw the presentation videos the girls made for the curb climber, he made sure they were highlighted on the hospital's blog, which gained them enough media attention to make it on major newspapers, radio shows and, most recently, *The Tonight Show Starring Jimmy Fallon*.

People can follow Sadie's exploits on the public Facebook page Sadie's Totally Awesome Cerebral Palsy Adventure.

Sadie is currently considering ways to improve the Amazing Curb Climber so it can be used to climb short sets of stairs. As for a future career, Miriam McCallum says Sadie's chief interest right now is in becoming a writer or a librarian.

ChemiCube — chemical mixer

Matt Spettel was a high schooler in Merrimack when he invented the ChemiCube, a small, unassuming box with tubes sticking out and a few buttons on top.

Spettel said he combined his interests in engineering and a project assignment for chemistry class to create something that promises to solve a problem that's been plaguing chemistry classrooms and small laboratories for years: the inability to measure chemicals quickly and efficiently.

After a bit of trial and error, Spettel stumbled upon something that had only been available in expensive lab equipment before: accuracy in measurement and automation.

He describes the device as a peristaltic pumping system. With the push of a few

buttons it can pump an exact amount of a liquid or mix a few liquids together at just the right ratio and amount.

"So a teacher can set up the three chemicals that you are using that day and then students can come by, press the buttons and get those three chemicals they need really fast, which is much more efficient than the current method," Spettel said.

For now Spettel is focusing his new business on the classroom market, but he sees applications for small laboratories and even drink-mixing at some forward-looking high-tech watering holes.

Earlier this summer Spettel won second place in the embedded systems category at the Intel International Science and Engineering Expo, earned \$1,500 and got an asteroid named after him by MIT scientists. He also won the BizGen business pitch competition at UNH, a \$4,500 award.

Spettel is currently a freshman at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Photocatalytic composite — solar water filter

As a high schooler in Nashua, Deepika Kurup was named 2016 TechStudent of the Year by the New Hampshire High Tech Council for developing "A Novel Photocatalytic Pervious Composite for Degrading Organics and Inactivating Bacteria in Wastewater," as Kurup described it in a paper.

Its formal name is a mouthful, but essentially it's a new, inexpensive method of cleaning water using solar power. And if it saves poor women in the developing world from spending their days carrying water from a village source to their home, the name deserves every syllable. Such menial tasks often preclude women from access to a basic education.

The central innovation, Kurup said in an email, was a composite she created that cleans water when it's struck by sunlight. The composite is made of titanium dioxide and a type of cement. When light hits it, it creates highly reactive oxygen species (in the family of peroxide) that clean out bacteria and a variety of organic contaminants.

Some prototypes are built as a long clear tube that zig-zags back and forth on a plane, with tiny balls of the composite inside the tube. Others are simple clear canisters with the composite in the shape of a rod inside it.

Kurup was named to Forbes' 2015 30 under 30 in Energy and received the \$25,000 Discovery Education 3M Young Scientist Award for an early version of her invention while in high school. She also won the U.S. Stockholm Junior Water Prize in 2014.

Kurup is currently studying neurobiology as a sophomore at Harvard University.

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The team behind Awato at Manchester's Alpha Loft business incubator. Courtesy photo.

SOFTWARE

Awato — career booster

Winner of the 2016 TechOut startup competition, Awato (pronounced 'a way to') boasts being the most sophisticated career assessment and matchmaking program around.

State of innovation

New Hampshire High Tech Council Executive Director Matt Cookson said there are a number of factors that make the Granite State a great place to innovate and discover new game-changers.

One condition that breeds more innovators is that New Hampshire's economy is made up mostly of small businesses.

"The end result is people need to wear a lot of hats and that creates innovation right there," Cookson said.

And the startup scene has a lot of serial entrepreneurs who have a lot of experience with taking risks and innovating. They stay here for the quality of life and for how easy it is to network.

"It's very easy to get to know your political leaders, even the governor, our U.S. senators," Cookson said.

He recalled a recent situation where a startup working on a prototype that is tangentially related to energy was able to get a meeting with a major energy company CEO just by reaching out on LinkedIn.

Cookson said a relatively unregulated business climate and a tight-knit group of entrepreneurs have led to the creation of tech hubs in the Manchester and Seacoast areas and the tech culture in those hubs is getting stronger.

"I think it is blossoming. There's a great recognition that tech drives the economy," Cookson said.

The struggle in the state's tech sector right now is shared by the economy at large; a workforce shortage and a brain drain to other states like Massachusetts.

"That's what threatens our growth now. And that means taking a proactive approach and not just waiting for people to come here," Cookson said.

CEO and founder Matt Guruge said the online questionnaire can figure out more about a person in less time than other methods.

"Our big innovation is we actually created a new way to assess people," Guruge said. "We actually do 500 data points in 30 minutes."

Users answer about 60 questions that work to figure out a person's interests, values, emotional intelligence, motivations and personality type based on Myers-Briggs Type Indicators.

He said the learning artificial intelligence that makes the assessment process work behind the scenes is one of the most advanced around.

But they didn't stop there. In order to ensure the second step, match-making, beats out the competition, they aimed high.

"We actually have the largest job database in the world for ... career matching," Guruge said.

After an assessment, it shows the user his top three career matches and then shows a full ranking with a list of 600 jobs.

Not only does it help people find new jobs; it also seeks to help them become happier in their current job by identifying areas in their personality that might rub up against or get suffocated by certain aspects of their work and suggesting ways to change their environment for the better.

Right now, folks can get a free assessment with the beta version at awato.io, but the final version will be going to market in the spring. It will be a business-to-business model, aiming initially for employers and colleges. The employer version of the web-based program includes the suggestions for making your current job happier, and the school version includes resume-building and step-by-step job-hunting guidelines.

Individuals will be able to pay \$25 to \$30 to use the program. Guruge said he hopes to eventually expand it to high schools to identify skills and interests early, and to unemployed and underemployed folks who need to train up in areas employers need.

Vitals SmartShopper — healthcare services shopper

This Bedford-based company is disrupting the healthcare marketplace by making the prices for procedures like mammograms transparent and paying people cash to get the procedure done at the better-value facilities. It takes some of the most basic tenets of capitalism — competition and efficiency — and introduces them into what has been a traditionally opaque and illogical health care industry. From one facility to the next, prices for MRIs, lab tests and surgeries can vary widely, but since insurance companies tend to pick up the tabs, patients have little to no incentive to even glance at the bill. And shopping around is either impossible, very difficult or pointless if your insurance covers it either way.

Now patients, insurers and employers can win by giving business to the most cost-effective medical facilities. Insurers can save thousands on certain procedures, and patients can earn cash incentives from \$25 to \$500, according to a company spokesperson.

Smartshopper started in New Hampshire as a program under Compass Healthcare Advisers, which was acquired by New Jersey-based Vitals in 2014. Now, the company helps 150 million people annually get access to information for higher-quality affordable healthcare.

Assuming you have health insurance through a partnering provider like Anthem, through private or employer-provided insurance, you can shop around on the SmartShopper website (vitalssmartshopper.com) and call up their customer service reps for assistance.

ValChoice — car insurance shopper

Described as a Carfax for insurance, ValChoice aims to achieve transparency in the automobile insurance market by digging through big piles of insurance data from each state to score insurers on price and payout, which vary from state to state.



Photocatalytic Panel. Courtesy photo.

Founder and CEO Dan Karr of Bedford recently won \$120,000 from the Microsoft BizSpark Plus award for his industry-disrupting startup, based in Manchester. Karr also participated in Alpha Loft's Accelerator program. Karr, a Silicon Valley veteran, got into this business after he became personally embroiled in the deep, dark world of the insurance business by getting hit by a car while riding a bike. Between his health insurance and the other guy's auto insurance, Karr was still on the hook for about \$100,000 in medical expenses. Seeing a serious problem in the insurance market, Karr decided he needed to come up with a fix, so he brought his tech savvy to bear and started ValChoice.

RESEARCH

uSafeNH — sexual assault app

One of the biggest research arms of the University of New Hampshire is sexual assault prevention. The Prevention Innovations Research Center is recognized internationally for coming up with some of the most groundbreaking prevention strategies, called "Bringing in the Bystander" strategies, and even received recognition from the White House for its work, according to Director of Research Sharyn Potter.

"We don't launch satellites or break atoms or anything, but we account for 34 percent of the university's licenses because of our research-based prevention strategies, which is pretty cool," Potter said.

The flagship strategies produced by the PIRC, the training program "Bringing in the Bystander" and the social media campaign "Know Your Power" undergird a mobile app designed to help prevent sexual assault on college campuses and provide guidance to victims and their friends and families.

The app launched in 22 colleges in New Hampshire is called uSafeNH. Potter hopes to get the last few colleges in the state on board to reach a total of 26 by the end of the year.

Each of the seven original authors of the Bystander program earned a share of the royalty profits and each reinvested that money to lay the groundwork for building the app.

The app's creation was a collaboration with UNH Manchester's computer science department, the state Attorney General's office, the New Hampshire Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence and other organizations.

The information that the app provides is based on which college the student is enrolled in or where the staff member is employed, as well as GPS data, and it connects the user to their local police department and social services if they are the victim of a sexual assault. There is a robust Frequently Asked Questions section and all the information in the app is specif-



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The MMS project. Courtesy of NASA.

ic to each university and part of the state.

“So it’s labor-intensive,” Potter said, referring to the work of collecting all the pertinent information for each college.

There’s also a feature on the app called “Expect Me” that enables users to notify friends of an estimated time of arrival at a certain location if they’re walking alone at night. If the user does not check in, the app automatically calls the friends.

Now, they’re working on expanding to other states like Massachusetts, New York, Rhode Island and Maine.

“We’re calling it uSafeUS for now,” Potter said. “We’re hoping by next fall we’ll be helping a significant amount of the Eastern Seaboard. And then, once we get that going, we’ll move west.”

Colleges out of state will pay a nominal fee for the app, while students will not pay anything and it will remain free in New Hampshire.

In separate ventures, PIRC is also piloting a sexual violence prevention video game and a Bystander program for high schoolers.

Space weather — satellite equipment

The Institute for the Study of Earth, Oceans and Space (EOS) at the University of New Hampshire has been visiting new territory as it explores the cutting-edge field of space weather.

Clifford Lopate, associate research professor in the physics department, helped create a key component in the next generation of weather monitoring satellites to be launched into space, the first of which launched on Nov. 19. The remaining three will be launched about two years apart and the last of them will stay in orbit until 2036.

“Space weather is a fairly new science,” Lopate said.

While UNH has created components for scientific satellites that have a more singular and temporary purpose — to test a theory or scan for specific data — the GOES-R satellite and its sisters will be the first “operational” satellites UNH was involved in.

Beyond terrestrial weather patterns,

the new satellites will scan for charged particles (ionizing radiation), which are abundant in various forms in outer space and can be produced in far greater intensities by the sun’s solar flares.

The specific component Lopate and his team developed was the Energetic Heavy Ion Sensor. The EHIS is tasked with finding ionized iron, nickel, carbon, oxygen and the like.

Compared with the more abundant ionized protons or electrons (background radiation), heavy ions are produced by the sun and are more rare. They can cause problems when they interact with human cells, like mutation and cancer, and problems with electronics.

While charged protons are like a shower of arrows in large quantities, a charged iron particle is like an armor-piercing bullet. Ionized iron, for example, deposits 250 times the energy of an ionized proton.

Studying the patterns of space radiation will not only be instructive for human space travel; it will also help make connections between solar activity and Earth weather.

“We monitor [the space weather] when there’s increases in ... ionizing radiation and try to look at what’s happening on the sun and what’s happening on the Earth and try to make predictions,” Lopate said.

While EHIS is part of a satellite that belongs to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, other UNH projects have been used in NASA satellites.

Last year, UNH participated in NASA’s Magnetospheric Multiscale mission, which studied the low Earth magnetosphere to learn about the underlying processes that drive cosmic weather events like geomagnetic storms, solar flares and coronal mass ejections, which can have significant impacts on power grids, communication satellites and GPS navigation.

The MMS mission used four spacecraft that were launched into space with a single rocket and made history when it collected never-before-seen data on the process known as magnetic reconnection. Each craft contained two Electron Drift Instruments developed by a UNH team. ☁



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THIS WEEK

EVENTS TO CHECK OUT DECEMBER 15 - 21, 2016, AND BEYOND



Friday, Dec. 16

Rogue One: A Star Wars Story, the next installment in the *Star Wars* franchise and the first standalone film, hits theaters. The story is chronologically set after the events of *Star Wars: Episode 3 — Revenge of the Sith* and shortly before the events of the original *Star Wars* film released in 1977.



Friday, Dec. 16

Jazz musicians **The Ervin Dhimo Trio** will perform a show at the Riverwalk Cafe and Music Bar (35 Railroad Square, Nashua) at 8 p.m. In addition to bassist Ervin Dhimo, the group features Berklee College of Music Professor Steve Hunt as the keyboardist and percussionist prodigy Steve Michaud as the drummer. Tickets are \$10 at the door. Visit riverwalknashua.com or call 578-0200 for details.



Saturday, Dec. 17

Join the Massabesic Audubon Center (26 Audubon Way, Auburn) for a **bird carving demonstration** from 10 to 11:30 a.m., presented by master carver Don Combs. Combs will share the types of wood and the hand tools used in transforming a block of wood to a collectible work of art and will talk about the history and current trends of carving birds. The cost is \$5 per person. Visit nhaudubon.org or call 668-2045.



Saturday, Dec. 17

The **When I'm 64 Four-Mile Race** departs from Bishop Brady High School (25 Columbus Ave., Concord) at 11 a.m. All proceeds will benefit Bishop Brady's Habitat for Humanity program. The four-mile road race is on a hilly course and will feature refreshments and a raffle to wrap up the event. Visit bishopbrady.edu or call 224-7418 for more information.



Tuesday, Dec. 20

Join the **Merrimack County Stamp Collectors** for its next meeting at Bow Mills United Methodist Church (505 South St., Bow) at 1 p.m. Meet other collectors and learn more about their hobby and various interests in philatelic resources and issues. Call 228-1154 for more details.

Christmas Eve First Congressional Church

508 Union St., Manchester
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4:30pm - Family Service

8:00pm - Candlelight
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Choir & Sabbath Bells

EAT: at the Snowflake Social
Sample sushi, holiday treats, beers and wines and more at the annual **Snowflake Social** at the Concord Food Co-op (24 S. Main St.) on Thursday, Dec. 15, from 4 to 6 p.m. Admission is free and no registration is required. Visit concordfoodcoop.coop or call 225-6840 for more details.

DRINK: wine

Join IncrediBREW (112 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua) for its **holiday wine fest** on Thursday, Dec. 15, at 6 p.m. Enjoy holiday treats and wine samples while making six bottles of wine to take home. Visit incredibrew.com or call 891-2477 to register.

BE MERRY: with Christmas tunes

More than a dozen Granite State singers will perform at the Capitol Center for the Arts (44 S. Main St., Concord) for A New Hampshire Chronicle Christmas at Rocking Horse Studio on Friday, Dec. 16, and Saturday, Dec. 17, at 7 p.m. Artists like Dusty Gray, Brooks Young, Anna Madsen and more will join the Rocking Horse Studio Band to perform traditional and contemporary Christmas music. Tickets are \$20 and a portion of the proceeds will benefit New Hampshire charities. Visit ccanh.com or call the box office at 225-1111 to buy tickets.

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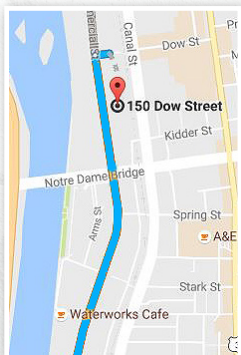
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ARTS

Crafty couple

Kay and Bill St. Onge busy in the woodshop this season

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Kay and Bill St. Onge met in 2006 while waiting for a table at Carrabba's Italian Grill in Bedford. Both were widowed in 2004 and there alone that day.

"My daughter had been saying, 'You and dad used to like going out to eat for Italian food. Go out!' She was going to go with me, but at the last minute, she couldn't go," Kay St. Onge said during an interview at the couple's Bedford home.

So she went by herself and sat down next to Bill St. Onge. They began talking. When the hostess called his table, he invited her to join him for dinner.

"I said, 'If you're buying, yeah!'" Kay St. Onge said, laughing.

They married in 2008 and have since traveled all over the country. Last summer, they spent six months on the road. But their favorite activity to do together is wood-working — in fact, they do so much of it, they haul out close to 100 gallons of sawdust a week in 55-gallon drums.

About a year ago they started a NH Made-certified business, Kay's Kustom Krafts, which they run out of their Bedford home. Over the past several months their projects have focused on making holi-

Kay's Kustom Krafts

Contact: nhmade.com/members/kays-custom-krafts/, kayskustomkrafts@gmail.com, 472-7484



Kay St. Onge working on the lathe in her and her husband's basement workshop. Kelly Sennott photo.

day-ready gifts: pens, seam rippers, picture frames, cutting boards, shakers, grinders and wine stoppers. Both are retired now, but Kay St. Onge convinced him the venture would earn them some "play money" and get their name out for their custom furniture business.

Woodworking has been a lifelong hobby for Bill St. Onge — in fact, he's still got tools that belonged to his great-grandfather, which he pulls out a few times a year — but it's a new one for her. Quilting used to be her primary craft, but she likes that this medium is cooperative.

"Quilting is kind of a solitary type of

thing," she said. "But with this we can work together. I enjoy working with him, and he enjoys working with me. Usually, if we come up with a problem he can't solve, I can. If I can't solve it, he can."

The proof of this productive relationship is in their kitchen, where you'll find pieces that hold food, clothes and dog food, plus their first piece together, ever — an antique cabinet stained with reduced coffee and reduced wine. It's also in their bedroom, which holds a large wooden bureau they made, and on their dining room table, which is typically reserved to display their latest makes.

During a recent visit, the duo were



Pens by Kay's Kustom Krafts. Kelly Sennott photo.

working on holiday-friendly gifts in their basement workshop. They wore matching green polos, jeans and bright orange suspenders. Christmas music played in the background. He finished up a wooden pen on the lathe and, after popping on some red ear protectors, she pushed a piece of cedar through their planer. ("I especially love the smell of it afterward," Kay St. Onge said, holding the wood to her nose.)

The pens are currently available at the Currier Museum of Art's gift shop, and they come in different types of wood (like maple, rosewood, hickory, pine and oak) and metal (gold, pewter, silver). Making them requires a lot of machinery, including a table saw, planer, sanding machine, joiner and lathe — which might be why you don't see it done in New Hampshire often.

"It's not very hard to learn how to make it, if you're already a turner," he said. "Very few people are doing this. You need a lot of equipment to do it the way we do it. And, of course, we've been collecting these tools since we've been together, and I've been collecting tools since I was 3 years old."

When they're not woodworking, they're traveling; this summer they have tentative plans to go to Maine or Nova Scotia. Last summer they were on the road for six months, and in 2012 they were gone for seven. They've gone kayaking, gold mining — it doesn't seem to matter what they do, just as long as they're together.

"We just enjoy doing stuff together, period. We hate being apart. Even for a few minutes," Bill St. Onge said. "This is an adventure every day. ... People tell us we're living the life, and we agree." 🌿



Kay St. Onge and her husband. Kelly Sennott photo.



Wine tops by Kay's Kustom Krafts. Kelly Sennott photo.

LOCAL — COLOR — NH art world news

• **Russian Christmas:** The New England Language Center's International Art Gallery (16 Hillside Drive, Rochester) hosts a Russian Christmas Bazaar this Saturday, Dec. 17, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., which will feature an exhibit of Russian art, icons, storytelling, cartoons and history, according to a recent press release. Among the items available are Matryoshka doll sets, Khokhlama bowls, spoons, candlesticks, hand-painted figurines, Russian holiday greeting cards, etc. Call 332-2255, email marina@marinaforbes.com or visit marinaforbes.com. Admission is free.

• **Take a tour:** The Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester, has a tour this weekend for people who like winter weather — "Winter Wonderland in the Currier Collection" happens Saturday, Dec. 17, at 11:30 a.m., showing viewers the most wintry pieces on view in the museum, which is free to attend with museum admission. The last tours for "Mount Washington: The Crown of New England" happen Wednesday, Dec. 28, at 11:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. (There's an additional \$5 fee to see the Mount Washington show, which is on view through Jan. 16.) Visit currier.org or call 669-6144, ext. 108.

• **Looking for artists:** Next month, American Civil Liberties Union and Rights & Democracy, NH, host "This is What Trans Feels Like," at Wrong Brain Art Collective, 1 Washington St., Suite 459, Dover, Jan. 6 through Feb. 14, with a reception Friday, Jan. 6, from 5 to 9 p.m. The show will feature work by local artists about what it means to be transgender living in New Hampshire. Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis until Dec. 21 and can be found at action.freedomnh.org/page/s/trans-art. "Art is one of the few mediums



This weekend, you can check out some Russian art at the Russian Christmas Bazaar. Courtesy photo.

that transcends differences," Christina Gibson, one of the show's organizers, said in an email. "That's why we're teaming up with local artists and partners who are dedicated to using this medium to help tell the stories of transgender people — and grow public understanding about what it means to be transgender and the unique hardships the trans community faces."

• **Storytelling mural:** Students from Jennifer Moses' intermediate painting class at the University of New Hampshire have created a vibrant mural at the Durham campus's Dimond Library, 18 Library Way, Durham. Recently unveiled, the mural documents the school's 150-year history and was commissioned as part of the yearlong sesquicentennial festivities, according to a UNH Today post. Featured in the painting are notable UNH alum, like Lee Morin, a NASA astronaut who traveled to the International Space Station; Yitang Zhang, a math professor who received a 2014 MacArthur Foundation "genius grant;" and Edwin and Mary Scheier, mid-century modern painters who taught for 20 years at UNH.

— Kelly Sennott

23 Art

Includes listings for gallery events, ongoing exhibits and classes. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

26 Theater

Includes listings, shows, auditions, workshops and more. To get listed, e-mail arts@hippopress.com.

27 Classical

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Art

Events

• **FOCUS TOUR: WINTER WONDERLANDS IN THE CURRIER COLLECTION** Tour of that focuses on majestic images of winter and weather in the Currier collection. Sat., Dec. 17, at 11:30 a.m. Currier Museum of Art,

150 Ash St., Manchester. Free. • **JOANNE LUSSIER FINE ART & GALLERY OPEN HOUSE** Sat., Dec. 17, Sun., Dec. 18, noon-4 p.m. both days. JoAnne Lussier Fine Art, 40 Merrill Road, Weare. Visit joannelussier.com.

• **NOON YEARS EVE** Bubble-wrap fireworks, a huge

balloon drop, art-making activities, face painting, a dance party and live entertainment. Sat., Dec. 31, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Tickets go on sale Nov. 25. Visit currier.org/calendar/noon-years-eve-2016 or call 669-6144, ext. 108.

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New traditions

The Ragpicker's Dream stops again at The Music Hall

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

Even though Kent Stephens' Stage Force ceased operations last fall, its trademark holiday play-reading program, *The Ragpicker's Dream*, lives on in Portsmouth — and it probably will until the actors can't do it anymore.

"We always knew we were going to continue this," Stephens, the event's founder, said via phone. "People now tell us that, as far as they're concerned, their holidays haven't started until they've seen *Ragpicker's*."

The Ragpicker's Dream, named for Mark Knopfler's song and studio album, is a collection of holiday-themed pieces taken from all media — songs, plays, poems and literature — about loss, homecomings, holiday heroes and miracles. Some are by nationally known writers like David Sedaris and John Cheever, and some are by the actors (like Susan Poulin's "Feeding Santa and His Reindeer," excerpted from *A Very Ida Christmas*).

There are no costumes, sets, props, dancing or special lighting — just six actors (Stephens, Poulin, CJ Lewis, Doria Bramante, James Sears and Kathy Somssich) sitting on stools and reading. Stephens calls it the "low-tech alternative to *Beauty and the Beast*," which is playing at The Music Hall all December.

"It's great literature, and people like hearing great literature. It's one of the secrets for the success of the Writers on



The Ragpicker's Dream hits Portsmouth Dec. 17 and Dec. 20. Courtesy photo.

a New England Stage and Writers in the Loft series. We are fortunate to live in a community that likes to hear good writing onstage," Stephens said.

This year, the readings happen Saturday, Dec. 17, and Tuesday, Dec. 20, at The Music Hall, with a run time of about two hours and 15 minutes, including intermission.

Stephens started the program 11 years ago, taking inspiration from an Atlanta writers' concert fundraiser he participated in. Performers either read their own material or adapted their stuff to the stage with actors. One piece in the 2016 program is by a couple of those participants — "Nativity" by Terry and Bonnie Turner, who went on to create sitcoms like *3rd Rock from the Sun*

and *That '70s Show*. Stephens gave the reading a holiday spin, and though programming has changed over the years, its concept remains the same, offering Christmas tales outside your cookie cutter standards like

A Christmas Carol and *It's a Wonderful Life*.

"I'm crazy about Christmas," Stephens said. "I've collected Christmas literature for many, many years. It's a great subject, and so many great writers have touched on it."

He mentioned John Cheever's

"Christmas is a Sad Season for the Poor," which will be performed by the company; it's about a 1940s Manhattan elevator operator complaining about the fact poor people have it so rough on Christmas, only to become overwhelmed with gifts

from people in his building on Dec. 25.

Stephens will read an anonymous piece, "My Christmas Dinner," about a man who keeps rejecting Christmas invitations in the hopes of getting one from a special lady, and he'll perform with the company "A Typical Irish Christmas" by Maeve Binchy, about a widower who travels to Ireland to avoid spending the holiday with friends.

Not every piece is uplifting; some stories offer a chance to feel some pretty hard-felt emotions.

"I think what's so really wonderful about *The Ragpicker's Dream* is that it shows the holidays in all their complexity. As we get older, they're not always merry. It has some really funny, heartwarming pieces, but it also has pieces that make you think," said Poulin, who's been performing in *The Ragpicker's Dream* since its inception 11 years ago. "There's one that really makes you think about generosity around the holidays, and one about missing loved ones. ... There are really funny things, and there are things that make you remember your own childhood."

Poulin is known on the Seacoast for her on-stage personality, *Ida LeClair*, but a couple years ago Stephens invited her to write a new piece outside that world.

"I hadn't written something as myself for a long time, and it was such a gift. I worked on this piece — and Kent calls it a touchstone piece now — called 'What's Your Story.' It's looking at the death of my mom; once you lose somebody, the holidays are different," she said. "It's important to move on, and instead of trying to recreate those traditions, which always makes them sadder, there's something to be said for creating new traditions. And that's why *Ragpicker* is great — it does create a new tradition for people." 🌟

The Ragpicker's Dream

Where: The Music Hall Loft, 131 Congress St., Portsmouth

When: Saturday, Dec. 17, at 1:30 p.m.; Tuesday, Dec. 20, at 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$15

Contact: themusichall.org, 436-2400

“ I think what's ... wonderful about The Ragpicker's Dream is that it shows the holidays in all their complexity. ”

SUSAN POULIN

• **MANCHESTER ARTISTS' ASSOCIATION MEETING** Speaker/demonstrator is watercolor and collage artists William Earnshaw. Mon., Jan. 9, at 7 p.m. Bedford Public Library, Meetinghouse Road, Bedford.

In the Galleries

• **"EMMA BLOOD FRENCH HALL 100TH ANNIVERSARY"** Survey of historical photos, architectural renderings, NHIA artifacts, artwork by faculty past and present. On view Nov. 4 through Dec. 17. Emma B. French Gallery,

148 Concord St., Manchester. Roger Williams Gallery, 77 Amherst St., Manchester. Visit nhia.edu.

• **"COMFORT AND JOY"** NH artists celebrate the comforts and joys of home, family and friends. On view Nov. 12 through Dec. 18. Twiggs Gallery, 254 King St., Boscawen. Visit twigsgallery.wordpress.com. Call 975-0015.

• **"SOON I WILL BE PRESIDENT"** Art show featuring work by Joe Wardwell. On view Nov. 3 through Dec. 17. SNHU, McNinch Art Gallery,

2500 N. River Road, Manchester. Visit snhu.edu/art, call 629-4622.

• **"INHERENT GROWTH," "GARDEN OF EARTHLY DELIGHTS"** Two art shows, the first featuring work by Rachel Montroy and Joe Montroy, the second featuring work by Ellen Wetmore. Nov. 26 through Dec. 23. 3S Artspace, 319 Vaughan St., Portsmouth. Visit 3sarts.org, call 766-3330.

• **"CLEARING"** Art show featuring work by Melissa Anne Miller. On view Nov. 15 through Dec. 23. McGowan

Fine Art, 10 Hills Ave., Concord. Visit mcgowanfineart.com. Call 225-2515.

• **"REUNION EXHIBIT: RHODE ISLAND SCHOOL OF DESIGN, CLASS OF 1967"** On view Oct. 1 through Dec. 24. Mill Brook Gallery & Sculpture Garden, 236 Hopkinton Road, Concord. Call 226-2046, visit themillbrook-gallery.com.

• **"ART FROM THE HEART"** Art show supporting artist Christine Hodecker as she battles cancer. On view Oct. 28 through Dec. 31. Mill

Falls Marketplace, 312 DW Highway, Meredith. Visit mill-falls.com. Call 279-7006.

• **LINDA H. FEINBERG** Artist show. On view through December. Provident Bank, 115 River Road, Bedford. Visit lindafeinberg.com.

• **"SPIRIT OF THE SEASHORE"** Art show featuring watercolor paintings by Peg Duffin. Dec. 7-Dec. 31. Lane Library, 2 Academy Ave., Hampton. Call 926-3368.

• **"ART FROM MEMORY"** Featuring artwork by Saad and Al Hassan Hindel. On

view through December. RiverStones Custom Framing, 33 N. Main St., Rochester. Call 812-1488. Email riverstones-customframing@gmail.com.

• **WCA-NH 6x6 PANEL SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISER** Show comprising 6-inch by 6-inch panels designed by artists from around the state. Each priced at \$66. On view Nov. 4 through Jan. 5. Studio 550, 550 Elm St., Manchester. Visit 550arts.com. Call 232-5597.

• **4TH ANNUAL CUP SHOW & SALE** Curated collection

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Notes from the theater scene

• **Winter solstice:** The New Hampshire Theatre Project honors the winter solstice with master storyteller Diane Edgecomb, Celtic harper Margot Chamberlain and multi-instrumentalist Tom Megan with a concert, *The Winter Solstice in Legend & Song*, on Wednesday, Dec. 21, at 7 p.m. at the West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth. The event includes haunting legends of light accompanied by traditional music and song. Featured stories include the Scandinavian "Legend of the Mistletoe," the Greek myth "The Coming of the Days of Peace" and the Cherokee tale "Evergreen." Tickets are \$28, and reservations are recommended. Call 431-6644, ext. 5, or email reservations@nhtheatreproject.org.

• **A Christmas Carol gone wrong:** The Pittsfield Players presents *Dickens' Christmas Carol, A Traveling Travesty in Two Tumultuous Acts*, directed by Marty Williams and produced by Meggin Dail, this weekend at the Pittsfield Players' Scenic Theatre, 6 Depot St., Pittsfield, with shows Friday, Dec. 16, and Saturday, Dec. 17, at 7:30 p.m. The play follows a theater company embarking on its 15th tour of the Dickens classic, but things don't go on as planned; the diva feigns illness, and the rest of the troupe must shuffle around the cast to go on with the show. Tickets are \$12. Call 435-8852 or visit pittsfieldplayers.com.



The New Hampshire Theatre Project presents *The Winter Solstice in Legend & Song* this weekend. Courtesy photo.

• **Rudolph re-imagined:** The Seacoast Repertory Theatre's youth company, the Portsmouth Academy of Performing Arts, presents its final two runs of *Rudolphetto: A Christmas Operetta for a Gifted Reindeer* on Saturday, Dec. 17, and Sunday, Dec. 18, at 10 a.m. at the theater, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth. The play, written by Douglas Wheeler with lyrics by Miles Burns, is about a gifted reindeer, Rudolph, enrolled in Reindeer Public School No. 6 in New York. Rudolph loves to eat candy — and so does the bully reindeer at school, who frequently steals it from him. Also troubling Rudolph is his parents' color-blindness, which prevents them from seeing his bright red nose. Tickets are \$10. Visit seacoastrep.org or call 433-4793.

— Kelly Sennott

of cups, mugs, tumblers. Most priced between \$25 and \$55. On view Nov. 4 through Jan. 6. Studio 550, 550 Elm St., Manchester. Visit 550arts.com. Call 232-5597.

• **"JUXTAPOSITIONS"** Photography exhibition featuring work by Jean Stimmell. On view through Jan. 7. Epsom Public Library, 1610 Dover Road, Epsom. Visit epsomlibrary.com.

• **"UNWRITTEN THOUGHTS"** Art exhibition on view at Art 3 Gallery. On view Sept. 22 through Jan. 13. Art 3 Gallery, 44 W. Brook St., Manchester. Call 668-6650 or visit art3gallery.com.

• **"IT'S SHOWTIME: A HISTORY OF MANCHESTER'S THEATERS"** Showcasing artifacts and stories of Palace Theatre and many others that didn't last so long in the Queen City. On view through Jan. 14. Millyard Museum, 200 Bedford St., Manchester. \$8. Call 622-7531. Email history@manchesterhistoric.org.

• **"MOUNT WASHINGTON: THE CROWN OF NEW ENGLAND"** Currier art exhibition featuring Mount Washington-themed work. On view Oct. 1 through Jan. 16. Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Regular admission, plus a \$5 special exhibition fee. Visit currier.org. Call 669-6144, ext. 108.

• **"THE WHOLE FLOCK"** Traditional hand-carved birds, contemporary paintings, illustrations, sculpture. On view Dec. 9 through Jan. 27. Massabesic Audubon Center Gallery, 26 Auburn Way, Auburn. Call 668-2045.

• **"CATCHING LUMINANCE"** Featuring photography by Deborah Gray. On view Nov. 28 through Jan. 27. Derryfield Lyceum Gallery, 2108 Manchester Road, Manchester. Call 669-4524, ext. 2201. Visit derryfield.org. Email lyceum-gallery@derryfield.org.

Call 669-4524, ext. 2201. Visit derryfield.org. Email lyceum-gallery@derryfield.org.

Workshops/classes/demonstrations

• **COMMUNITY EDUCATION** For adults, teens, and children at NH Institute of Art. Disciplines include ceramics, creative writing, drawing, metalsmithing, photography, printmaking, fibers, and more. NH Institute of Art, 148 Concord St., Manchester. Prices vary depending on type of class and materials needed. Call 623-0313. Visit nhia.edu.

• **COMMUNITY EMPTY BOWLS** Make clay bowls to donate to Manchester Empty Bowls event to benefit New Horizons. First Friday of the month 3-6 p.m. Studio 550, 550 Elm St., Manchester. Free; beginners and advanced artists welcome. Visit 550arts.com. Call 232-5597.

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Benjamin Champney (American, 1817-1907), *Meadows, North Conway*, 1851, Oil on canvas, 17 3/4 x 24 in., Courtesy, Woburn Public Library, Woburn, Massachusetts.

RONAN TYNAN VISITS MANCHESTER



Acclaimed Irish tenor, recording artist, physician and champion athlete from the Paralympics, Ronan Tynan stops to perform at The Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester, on Sunday, Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. Tynan has performed at historic events like Ronald Reagan's funeral and the inaugural Prayer Service at the National Cathedral, and his renditions of "God Bless America" have been heard at the World Series, The Belmont Stakes and other momentous events. Tickets are \$30.50 to \$60.50. Visit palacetheatre.org or call 668-5588. Courtesy photo.

Theater Productions

- **BEAUTY AND THE BEAST** Ogunquit Playhouse Production at The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth. Nov. 30 through Dec. 18. Tickets \$42-\$92. Visit themusichall.org or call 436-2400.
- **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** Hatbox Theatre production. Nov. 25, through Dec. 18. Hatbox Theatre, 270 Loudon Road, Concord. \$16.50. Visit hatboxnh.com, call 715-2315.
- **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** Players' Ring production. Dec. 2 through Dec. 23. The Players' Ring, 105 Marcy St., Portsmouth. \$15. Visit playersring.org.
- **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** Leddy Center production. Dec. 2 through Dec. 22. Leddy Center for the Performing Arts, 38C Ladd's Lane, Epping. \$20. Visit leddycenter.org.
- **ELF: THE MUSICAL, JR.** Peacock Players production. Dec. 9 through Dec. 18. Janice B. Streeter Theater, 14 Court St., Nashua. \$12-\$17.
- **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE** Seacoast Rep production. Dec. 2 through Dec. 23. Seacoast Repertory Theatre, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth. \$17-\$30. Visit seacoastrep.org.
- **GOING TO SEE THE KID** Merrimack Repertory Theatre production. Nov. 30 through Dec. 24. Merrimack Repertory Theatre, 50 E. Merrimack St., Lowell. \$26-\$70. Visit mrt.org or call 978-654-4678.
- **THE SANTALAND DIARIES** Peterborough Players production. Dec. 7 through Dec. 17. Peterborough Players Theatre, 55 Hadley Road, Peterborough. \$39. Visit peterboroughplayers.org. Call 924-9344.
- **ELF: THE MUSICAL, JR.** At the Amato Center for the Performing Arts, 56 Mont Vernon St., Milford. Fri., Dec. 16, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 17, at 2:30 & 7:30 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 18, at 2:30 p.m. Tickets \$12. Performed by Riverbend Youth

Company. Visit svbgc.org.

- **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** Palace Theatre production. On view Dec. 2 through Dec. 23. Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. \$25-\$45. Visit palacetheatre.org.
- **THE NUTCRACKER** Sole City Dance production. Thurs., Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 16, at 7:30 p.m. Rochester Opera House, 31 Wakefield St., Rochester. \$22-\$26. Visit rochesteroperahouse.com.
- **DICKENS OF A CHRISTMAS** Thurs., Dec. 15, at 6:30 p.m. Old Salt Restaurant, 490 Lafayette Road, Hampton. \$39.99, includes food. Call 926-8322.
- **JACK AND THE BEANSTALK** Winnepesaukee Playhouse production. Dec. 16 through Dec. 30. Winnepesaukee Playhouse, 50 Reservoir Road, Meredith. \$12-\$22. Visit winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org.
- **THE BODACIOUS BABES&NOT ON THIS NIGHT** Lend Me a Theater double feature production. Fri., Dec. 16, at 7:30 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 17, at 7:30 p.m. Searles Chapel & School, 3 Chapel Road, Windham. \$18. Visit lendmeatheater.org.
- **THE NUTCRACKER** New Hampshire School of Ballet production. Fri., Dec. 16, at 7 p.m. Concord City Auditorium, 2 Prince St., Concord. \$18. Second production. Thurs., Dec. 29, at 7 p.m. Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. \$18.
- **THE SHADOW: THREE CHRISTMAS ADVENTURES** Garrison Players production. Fri., Dec. 16, at 8 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 17, at 8 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 18, at 2 p.m. Garrison Players Arts Center, 650 Portland Ave., Rollinsford. \$18. Visit garrisonplayers.org.
- **A CHRISTMAS CAROL** Prescott Park Arts Festival production. Sat., Dec. 17, at 7 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 18, at 2 p.m. Exeter Town Hall, 10 Front St., Portsmouth. \$10-\$20. Visit prescottpark.org.

- **THE NUTCRACKER** Gate City Ballet production. Sat., Dec. 17, at 1 and 5 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 18, at 1 p.m. Stockbridge Theatre, Pinkerton Academy, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry. \$20. Call 437-5210.
- **THE NUTCRACKER** Ballet Misha production. Sat., Dec. 17, at 7 p.m., and Sun., Dec. 18, at 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. Dana Center for the Humanities, 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester. \$25. Visit balletmisha.com.
- **RUDOLFOLETO** Christmas operetta for gifted reindeer; written by Douglas Wheeler, lyrics by Miles Burns. Sat., Dec. 10, at 10 a.m.; Sun., Dec. 11, at 10 a.m.; Sat., Dec. 17, at 10 a.m.; Sun., Dec. 18, at 10 a.m. Seacoast Repertory Theatre, 125 Bow St., Portsmouth.
- **NOT ANOTHER CHRISTMAS PAGEANT!** Comedic Christmas play. Sun., Dec. 18, at 6 p.m. Emmanuel Baptist Church, 14 Mammoth Road, Hooksett. Call 668-6473. Visit emmanuelbaptistchurch.com.
- **DORKS IN DUNGEONS: SEASON 5** Improv comedy show that explores stories in fantasy worlds using the traditions of role-playing games. Fri., Dec. 23, at 8 p.m. 3S Artspace, 319 Vaughan St., Portsmouth. Tickets \$12 or pay-what-you-can. Visit 3Sarts.org or dorksindungeons.com.
- **CHANUKAH AT THE PALACE** Featuring magician Jay Mattioli and a cappella group Maccabeats. Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Mon., Dec. 26, at 5:30 p.m. Tickets \$8. Visit palacetheatre.org.
- **ZEST FEST: KING PONG** Part of ZEST FEST: New Vaudeville Festival. Mon., Dec. 26, at 2 p.m., and Tues., Dec. 27, at 2 p.m. Strawberry Banke Museum, 14 Hancock St., Portsmouth. \$15. Visit pontine.org for performances.
- **ZEST FEST: THE YOYO SHOW** Part of ZEST FEST: New Vaudeville Festival. Featuring John and Rebecca Higby. Wed., Dec. 28, at 2 p.m.; Thurs.,

BEANSTALKS



The Winnepesaukee Playhouse presents something besides your traditional holiday fare this December — *Jack and the Beanstalk*, which is performed in the style of a Traditional English “panto” (traditional fairy tale show) according to a press release. The show happens Dec. 16 through Dec. 31 at the playhouse, 50 Reservoir Road, Meredith, and features music, dance, slapstick humor and magic. It’s a “zany, interactive” show, with jokes written specifically to appeal to young children and adults. This new version of *Jack and the Beanstalk* was written and directed by the company’s artistic director, Neil Pankhurst. Call 279-0333 or visit winnepesaukeeplayhouse.org. Courtesy photo.

Dec. 29, at 2 p.m. Strawberry Banke Museum, 14 Hancock St., Portsmouth. \$15. Visit pontine.org/performances.

• **ZEST FEST: LELAND FAULKNER** Part of ZEST FEST: New Vaudeville Festival. Featuring Leland Faulkner. Fri., Dec. 30, at 2 p.m. Strawberry Banke Museum, 14 Hancock St., Portsmouth. \$15. Visit pontine.org/performances.

• **ARTICULATE PLAYREADING SERIES** theatre KAPOW performs *The Pitmen Painters* by Lee Hall at the Currier Museum of Art, 150 Ash St., Manchester. Sun., Jan. 8, at 2 p.m. Free with museum admission (\$15 for adults, \$13 seniors, \$10 students, \$5 for youth ages 13-17). Visit tkapow.com.

• **BROWN BEAR, BROWN BEAR AND OTHER TREASURED STORIES** Presented by Mermaid Theatre. Fri., Jan. 6, at 10 a.m.; Sat., Jan. 7, at 10 a.m. Stockbridge Theatre. Pinkerton Academy, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry. Tickets \$9. Visit stockbridge theatre.com.

• **KIDS COOP THEATRE’S 20TH ANNIVERSARY GALA** Derry Opera House, 64 E. Broadway, Derry. Fri., Jan. 6, at 7 p.m. Special exhibits, entertainment, dancing, hors d’oeuvres. Visit kids-coop-theatre.org. Tickets \$32.50.

• **GODSPELL** Presented by STEPS, Specialized Theatre Enrichment Program. Retelling with contemporary references and new arrangements. Derry Opera House, 64 E. Broadway, Derry. Thurs., Jan. 12, at 7 p.m.; Fri., Jan. 13, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Jan. 14, at 7 p.m. Tickets \$15. Visit stepsnh.org/company.

• **LES MISERABLES: SCHOOL EDITION** Palace Youth Theatre production. Fri., Jan. 13, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Jan. 14, at noon. Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets \$14. Visit palacetheatre.org, call 668-5588.

• **SMOKEY JOE’S CAFE** Palace Theatre mainstage production. Jan. 20 through Feb. 11.

Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets \$25-\$45. Visit palacetheatre.org or call 668-5588.

• **15TH ANNUAL NH THEATRE AWARDS** Gala awards night featuring the best directors, actors, productions in NH professional and community theater. Sat., Jan. 21, at 7 p.m. Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord. \$32.50-\$50. Visit ccanh.com or call 225-1111.

• **LION KING JR.** Palace Youth Theatre production. Wed., Jan. 25, at 7 p.m.; Thurs., Jan. 26, at 7 p.m. Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. Tickets \$14. Visit palacetheatre.org. Call 668-5588.

• **RUMORS** Majestic Academy Teens production. Fri., Jan. 27, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Jan. 28, at 7 p.m.; Sun., Jan. 29, at 2 p.m. Derry Opera House, 64 E. Broadway, Derry. Tickets \$10. Visit majestictheatre.net.

Workshops/other

• **“IT’S SHOWTIME: A HISTORY OF MANCHESTER’S THEATERS”** Showcasing artifacts and stories of Palace Theatre and many others that didn’t last so long in the Queen City. On view through Jan. 14. Mill-yard Museum, 200 Bedford St., Manchester. \$8. Call 622-7531. Email history@manchesterhistory.org.

Classical Music Events

• **HANDEL’S “MESSIAH”** Concert. Fri., Dec. 16, at 7:30 p.m. Cathedral of St. Joseph, 145 Lowell St., Manchester. \$15. Call 622-6404.

• **CHRISTMAS STORIES AND CAROLING** Sebastian Lockwood reads *A Child’s Christmas in Wales* by Dylan Thomas and Truman Capote’s *A Christmas Memory*. Includes caroling, wassail, cookies. Fri., Dec. 16, at 7 p.m. Mariposa Museum, 26 Main St., Peterborough. \$7.

• **‘TIS THE SEASON** New Eng-

land Voices in Harmony concert. Sat., Dec. 17, at 2 p.m. Nashua Senior Center, 70 Temple St., Nashua. \$8-\$15. Visit newenglandvoicesinharmony.org.

• **PIANO CHRISTMAS CONCERT** Featuring Minako Merritt and Audrey Craft. Sat., Dec. 17, at 11 a.m. Dover Public Library, 73 Locust St., Dover. Call 516-6050.

• **HOLIDAY POPS!** Capital Jazz Orchestra concert. Sun., Dec. 18, at 4 p.m. Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord. \$20-\$45. Visit ccanh.com or call 225-1111.

• **ROCK MY SOUL** Holiday concert. Sun., Dec. 18, at 5 p.m. St. John’s Methodist Church, 28 Cataract Ave., Dover. \$15.

• **RONAN TYNAN** Holiday concert by Irish tenor. Sun., Dec. 18, at 7 p.m. Palace Theatre, 80 Hanover St., Manchester. \$30.50-\$60.50. Visit palacetheatre.org or call 668-5588.

• **ALUMNI BAND OF NH NATIONAL GUARD CONCERT** Marches, Broadway tunes, patriotic and Christmas music. Mon., Dec. 19, at 7:30 p.m. Sweeney Post #2 American Legion, 251 Maple St., Manchester. Free. Visit nhalumni-band.org. Second concert Wed., Dec. 21, at 7:30 p.m., American Legion Post #79, 35 West Brook Street, Manchester.

• **PORTSMOUTH SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA FAMILY HOLIDAY POPS** Concert. Tues., Dec. 20, at 7:30 p.m.; Wed., Dec. 21, at 7:30 p.m. The Music Hall, 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth. \$12-\$25. Visit themusic hall.org or call 436-2400.

• **THE WINTER SOLSTICE IN LEGEND AND SONG** Haunting legends of light, entertaining tales and traditional music and song. Wed., Dec. 21, at 7 p.m. West End Studio Theatre, 959 Islington St., Portsmouth. \$28. Call 431-6644.

• **HARK! THE HERALD ANGELS SING** Opera evening concert. Fri., Dec. 30, at 7:30 p.m. Christ Church, 43 Pine St., Exeter. \$15.

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Hobby, service...

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From yoga to pilates, cooking to languages to activities for the kids, Hippo's weekly listing offers a rundown of all area events and classes. Get your program listed by sending information to listings@hippopress.com at least three weeks before the event.

Looking for more events for the kids, nature-lovers and more? Check out **Hippo Scout**, available via the Apple App Store, Google Play or online at hipposcout.com.

INSIDE/OUTSIDE

Walking back in time

Candlelight Stroll returns to Strawberry Banke

By Matt Ingersoll
mingersoll@hippopress.com

Relive history while celebrating the holidays at the 37th annual Candlelight Stroll on the grounds of the Strawberry Banke Museum in Portsmouth, which features hundreds of lighted candles and thousands of handmade crafts on display, as well as a variety of carolers, costumed role-players and more.

The final weekend of the Stroll will take place on Friday, Dec. 16, and Saturday, Dec. 17, from 5 to 9 p.m., and on Sunday, Dec. 18, from 4 to 8 p.m.

"We try to make [the Stroll] a holiday experience that isn't commercial and doesn't feel contrived ... and the traditions run the entire gamut from before Americans even celebrated Christmas," said Alena Shellenbean, manager of volunteers and special events at Strawberry Banke.

This year's Stroll will incorporate the museum's "Port of Portsmouth" exhibit, which opened on July 1 and showcases the Seacoast's maritime history. Shellenbean said the new exhibit runs parallel with this year's Stroll theme, "Gifts from the Sea," which will be displayed all throughout the 38 buildings on Strawberry Banke's campus during the Stroll. The theme highlights how the ocean has served as a vital source of food, transportation and communication to city residents over the years.

"The theme runs across all of our



Take a holiday stroll. Photo by David J Murray. ClearEyePhoto.com

historic houses, which we are calling 'story houses,' and they all have scenes going on inside of them," Shellenbean said. "Most of the houses were built in the early days of this country, in the early part of the 18th century in some cases, but [the scenes] will display specific time periods."

Strollers who visit the various buildings lit up during the event will encounter dozens of costumed role-players and carolers who each play a figure at a different time in history, going back as far as the 1690s, when the earliest buildings of what is now the museum were built.

"As well as to help people get into the spirit of the holidays for the Stroll, the museum is a place where we try to be really authentic and present history in everything we do," Shellenbean said. "Some of the houses [at Strawberry Banke] were built during the Revolutionary War and the Civil War but have been lived in up until the 1950s ... so we don't represent a single time period, but the range in times that we show is from about 1690 all the way up to then."

In the Shapiro House, for example, which was built in 1720, you can visit the Shapiro family celebrating the seventh night of their Hanukkah tradition in the year

1919 by eating traditional foods and playing games.

Other houses extend the Stroll's "Gifts from the Sea" theme beyond the Port of Portsmouth exhibit. Visit the Goodwin House to listen to stories of Mr. Goodwin sailing ships in 1870 and making gifts, ornaments and more from the seashells the family collected.

Join the Rider-Wood family at their house in celebrating the arrival of their sister after a long journey at sea from England in 1845.

The Shapley-Drisco House will display scenes from two different time periods in different rooms. In 1795, join Mrs. Shapley and her daughters as they look at prints from Paris and try to agree on new gowns. And in 1955, visit Mrs. Day as she makes seafood chowder for dinner for her children.

"They are related in that it's all about Portsmouth history, and the river and the sea has so much to do with that — hence the theme," Shellenbean said.

Other highlights during the Stroll include the Labrie Family Skate at the museum's Puddle Dock Pond. (In addition to being open during the Stroll's hours, the rink will also be operating seven days a week throughout December, January and February, from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m.,

including New Year's Day.)

Take a horse-drawn carriage ride that departs from beside the Lowd House and travels down brightly lit streets for about 15 minutes.

For the younger crowd, there will be chances to win a prize during the Candlelight Kids Treasure Hunt. Guides for what you need to complete the Hunt can be picked up at the museum's entrance and dropped off at the visitors center.

Craft demonstrations will also be held at several locations around the museum during the Stroll, including fiber weaving, wreath-making, woodworking, and lantern- and ornament-making. You can also visit the Figtree Kitchen Cafe for seasonal snacks.

The Candlelight Stroll is one of the signature events of the Vintage Christmas in Portsmouth, which extends beyond Strawberry Banke and includes other features like the 26th annual gingerbread house contest exhibition at the Portsmouth Historical Society, and the Family Holiday Pops at The Music Hall, presented by the Portsmouth Symphony Orchestra.

"Portsmouth definitely has a reputation for being a great Christmas spot with events like the Stroll and all the other things going on in the area," Shellenbean said. 🍁

IN/OUT

KIDDIE

— POOL —

Family fun for the weekend

Santa and stories

Join the Aviation Museum of New Hampshire (27 Navigator Road, Londonderry) for a **storytime with Santa Claus** on Saturday, Dec. 17, at 11 a.m. Santa will read a story and visit with each child and a holiday-themed craft activity will follow. Regular museum admission applies, but members will receive free admission. Visit aviationmuseumofnh.org or call 669-4820 for more details.

See **Santa Claus live on television** at the Londonderry Access Center (281 Mammoth Road) on Saturday, Dec. 17, from 1 to 3 p.m. The event will also feature gifts, refreshments and more. Admission is free and parents can take pictures for no charge as well. Visit lactv.com or call 432-1147.

Join any of the four Barnes & Noble stores in southern New Hampshire (235 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua; 1741 S. Willow St., Manchester; 125 S. Broadway, Salem; and 45 Gosling Road, Newington) for a **storytime of Santa's Sleigh is on its Way to My House** on Saturday, Dec. 17, at 11 a.m. Holiday-themed activities will also be featured. Admission is free and no pre-registration is required. Visit barnesandnoble.com or call your local store.

Get crafty

Stop by the Wadleigh Memorial Library (49 Nashua St., Milford) anytime between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 17, for a **drop-in craft**. No registration is required and all materials will be provided. Visit wadleighlibrary.org or call 249-0645.

Holiday release party

Don't miss a special performance by the **Mr. Aaron Band** on Saturday, Dec. 17, at 4 p.m. at Rattlebox Studio (40 Thorndike St., Concord) to celebrate the release of its family music album *All My Friends are Giants*. Bring the family for some holiday-themed music, light refreshments and more. The cost is \$10 for the first child, \$5 for siblings and free for adults. Visit rattleboxstudio.com.



Santa at the Aviation Museum of NH Dec. 17

All natural

Join the Amoskeag Fishways Learning & Visitors Center (4 Fletcher St., Manchester) for the next event in its **Saturday nature seekers** series on Saturday, Dec. 17, from 11 a.m. to noon. Stop by for a "short and sweet" mini program that will have several fun nature-based activities. The theme throughout the month of December is "natural creations." There is a suggested donation of \$5 per family, and no registration is required. Visit amoskeagfishways.org or call 626-3474 for more details.

Exploratory fun

The Studio 550 Art Center (550 Elm St., Manchester) will be hosting a "**winter wonderland**" **sensory playgroup** for toddlers, which begins Thursday, Dec. 15, and continues on Friday, Dec. 16, and Saturday, Dec. 17, from 3 to 6 p.m., with additional hours from 10 a.m. to noon on Saturday. Playgroup activities will be developmentally appropriate for children ages 1½ to 4 and have been designed under the guidance of Montessori instructor Shana Jones. Activities will engage the senses and encourage exploratory play while incorporating both fine and gross motor skills, textures and more. The cost is \$8 per child per visit, or \$15 for unlimited visits for the duration of the event. Visit 550arts.com or call 232-5597 for more details.

Clubs

Hobby

PHOTOGRAPHERS FORUM CAMERA CLUB This meeting is a competition night with three categories: Assigned: "Abandoned" Challenge: "Sky and Clouds" and Open. All prints should be submitted by 7 p.m. Mon., Dec. 19, 7:15 p.m. Bishop Guertin High School, 194 Lund Road, Nashua. \$35 a year for individuals, \$60 for dual families and

\$15 for full-time students. Visit photographersforum.org.

KNIT & CROCHET CLUB All knitters and crocheters welcome Tues., Dec. 27, 6:30 to 8 p.m. Goffstown Public Library, 2 High St. Free. Visit goftownlibrary.com or call 497-2102.

Men's

NH RETIRED MEN'S ASSOCIATION CHRISTMAS SOCIAL There will be a Yankee

Swap and attendees are asked to bring an inexpensive swap gift. Light holiday refreshments and drinks will also be served. Tues., Dec. 20, 1 p.m. Jutras American Legion Post 43, 56 Boutwell St., Manchester. Call 965-3573.

Continuing Education Adult education

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IN/OUT THE GARDENING GUY

Winter pruning

Get to it before the snow is deep

By Henry Homeyer
listings@hippopress.com

Traditionally farmers pruned their apple trees in late winter, but there is no reason not to do so now. Trees are dormant, and we've finished weeding and raking, so most of us should have time to work on our trees. Pick a sunny afternoon and get to work! Later, when the snow is deep, it won't be so easy to prune.

Start by walking around the tree and looking at it from all angles. One of my goals in pruning is to create living sculpture, a tree with grace and elegance. A cluttered tree is never elegant to my eye. A bird should be able to fly through an apple tree without danger of injury.

Hesitant pruners often begin by nibbling away at a tree, taking dozens of small twigs and branches. I'm a bold pruner. I was taught that taking off big branches is better than tentatively snipping away at a tree. You want to open up the interior of the tree so that sunshine can get to every leaf. This creates a healthy tree. Do this by taking out the big branches if they are crowding others. More on that later.

But first, begin by looking for branches that are dead and removing them. They are doing no good for the tree and never will. If you scrape off a little bark, a live branch will show a green layer. Dead branches will only show brown. Cut the dead branch back to where it originates, but leave the branch collar.

The branch collar is a swollen area on the trunk of a tree or a larger branch where a new branch originates. The bark is often wrinkled at the collar. You don't want to leave a stub when you remove a branch, nor do you want to cut flush to the trunk. Just leave that collar, as that is where the tree heals itself.

Low branches are the bane of many people who mow lawns. So take a look at any trees with lawn underneath, and see if you could remove a couple of low branches and make life easier. Some trees tend to shed lower branches, but most do not. Cut low branches back to the branch collar on the trunk, allowing space for you and your mower to cut the grass with ease.

Often trees, especially wild trees, grow too close to their neighbors. A single root system sometimes sends up two to four stems in close proximity. Cut out one or more to leave a single trunk. At this time of year I leave first-year root suckers — those pencil-thin shoots surrounding the base of apple and crabapple trees — and remove them in the spring.

So what else can you remove? Look for branches that are rubbing, crossing or growing parallel to others. Trees really are of very low intelligence. They grow branches that have no chance of growing to their full poten-



Photo by Henry Homeyer.

tial. They run into each other, or crowd others out. Your job is to train them to behave — with a saw! Ask yourself what a branch will be like in five years. If it will crowd another branch, remove it, or the other one.

Using the appropriate saw is important. Don't use that rusty old bow saw that you bought 25 years ago when Sammy was a Boy Scout. Go to your local garden center or family-owned hardware store and get a tri-cut pruning saw. These saws are sharp! You can't sharpen them, but that doesn't matter. The steel is so tough they will be sharp long after you have stopped pruning.

Get something with a blade a foot long or more so you can cut large branches. Small folding saw are OK for many cuts, but my favorite is a long curved saw made by Corona. It has a 21-inch blade and the big teeth with gaps to remove sawdust and prevent it from clogging up and binding the saw. It's model RS 7160 and is available from OES-CO in Conway, Mass., for about \$47; I have the sheath for it, which costs another \$35 but really is needed for a saw with teeth that could hurt you when carrying it. It's my alternative to a chain saw for large branches.

If you are removing a heavy branch, you need to make three cuts, not one, so that the branch doesn't break off while you're cutting it, causing the bark to rip off, thus damaging the trunk. Make an undercut about a third of the way through the branch a foot or more from the trunk. Then go farther out the branch and lop off the bulk of the branch, reducing its weight. The undercut will stop any tearing of the bark. Finally cut off the stub at the branch collar.

The nice thing about pruning is that there are few serious mistakes to make. Yes, you can "oops!" a branch, but the tree will fill in spaces in a year or two. Branches are not like our arms or legs. Pruning is more like giving a tree a haircut. And if you think of pruning as sculpting, you will want to do it every year.

Henry posts his weekly articles and others at <https://dailyuv.com/gardeningguy>. You can sign up for an email alert each time he posts. Contact Henry at henry.homeyer@comcast.net or by mail at P.O. Box 364, Cornish Flat, NH 03746. 🍷

Dear Donna,

Can you tell me anything about this bank? I would like to know the age, maker, value and any other information you might have.

Paul from Merrimack

Dear Paul,

Your bank is a manufactured bank so unless it's marked or you can identify it in a catalog by a specific company, it's one of many. It's considered a cast iron house bank even though it looks more like a temple (which they have been called also).

Your bank is from right around the 1900s to the 1930s. The good news is that it looks like it is the original paint and it's still in good condition. This bank style is in other colors and style variations as well.

When valuing a bank you look for rarity, age, manufacturer, condition and how hard it is to find in today's market. The internet has made it so that most banks can be easily found, so unless it is a rare one they seem to have dropped in value.

This doesn't mean, though, that they are all in such nice original condition. That would be why someone (a collector) might pay more for yours. The value would be



in the \$80 range. One in poor shape can be found in the \$20 range. Buying a poor-condition one and repainting it does not increase the value — almost everything is best to leave as you found or purchased it.

Donna Welch has spent more than 20 years in the antiques and collectibles field and owns From Out Of The Woods Antique Center in Goffstown (fromoutofthewoodsantiques.com). She is an antiques appraiser and instructor. To find out about your antique or collectible, send a clear photo of the object and information about it to Donna Welch, From Out Of The Woods Antique Center, 465 Mast Road, Goffstown, N.H., 03045. Or email her at footwdw@aol.com. Or drop by the shop (call first, 624-8668).

be hosting these adult coloring nights. Materials will be provided, or you can bring your own. Mon., Dec. 19, 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Derry Public Library, 64 E. Broadway, Derry. Free. Call 431-6140 or visit derrypl.org.

Crafts

Craft events
• **THIRD ANNUAL CRAFT CLUB HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE** Come experience a taste of the library's craft club. Drop in at any time starting at 6 p.m. for an evening of holiday adult coloring, homemade ornaments and more. Thurs., Dec. 15, 6 to 7:30 p.m. Nesmith Library, 8 Fellows Road, Windham. Free. Visit nesmithlibrary.org or call 432-7154.

• **INTRODUCTION TO ZENTANGLE** Zentangle is a relaxing, easy to learn method of creating beautiful images by using simple structured patterns. Artists and non-artists alike enjoy the simple elegance of putting pen to paper and find that it enhances creativity and stress relief. Sat., Jan. 7, 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. League of NH Craftsmen Nashua Gallery, 98 Main St., Nashua. \$22 tuition due upon registration, with a \$10 materials fee. Visit nhcrafts.org or call 595-8233.

Dance

Dance events

• **WINTER SOLSTICE CIRCLE DANCE** No experience or partner needed. Fri., Dec. 16, 7 to 8:30 p.m. Portsmouth Center for Yoga and the Arts, 95 Albany St., #14, Portsmouth. \$5. Visit portsmouthyoga.com or call 664-2796.

Special folk dances

• **CONTRA DANCE** Dudley Laufman leads the annual Christmas barn dance with seasonal favorites. Beginners, singles and families are welcome. Sat., Dec. 17, 8 to 11 p.m. East Concord Community Center, 18 Eastman St., Concord. \$7 general admission, \$5 for ages 15 to 25, and free for children under age 15). Call 225-4917.

Health & Wellness Screenings

• **IMMUNIZATION, BLOOD PRESSURE AND HIV/HEPATITIS C TESTING** This clinic will be held by the Nashua Division of Public Health and Community Services. Vaccines will be available for uninsured adults and for children regardless of insurance status. Pneumonia, Hepatitis A, Hepatitis B, Shingles, Td and Tdap are \$10. Influenza is \$15 for adults and free for children. Blood pressure testing is also free. Fri., Dec.

16, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m. Rodgers Memorial Library, 194 Derry Road, Hudson. Visit rogerslibrary.org or call 886-6030.

Wellness workshops

• **THE INTERCONNECTED BODY: EAST ASIAN VIEWS ON HEALTH & WELLNESS** Attendees will learn the basics of how Chinese medicine sees the body as a connected whole. This class is great for those who just want to learn how to take better care of themselves. Thurs., Dec. 15, 6 to 7 p.m. Amherst Wellness Center, 17 Old Nashua Road, Unit 6, Amherst. Visit amherstwellness.com or call 673-4360.

Miscellaneous

Card, board & dice games for adults

• **GAME NIGHT** Join the library for a night of traditional board games and strategic games for adults. Bring a group or come on your own. Snacks and drinks will be served, and there will be a door prize. Ages 17+ only. Fri., Dec. 30, 5 to 8 p.m. Nesmith Library, 8 Fellows Road, Windham. Free. Visit nesmithlibrary.org or call 432-7154.

Holiday events

• **GIFT OF LIGHTS** This drive-through park of Christmas lights spans more than two miles and features hundreds of lights

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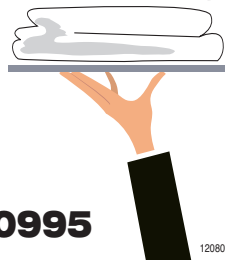


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THIS WEEK'S CRAFT FAIRS

The final day of Intown Manchester's **Downtown Holiday Market** will be on Thursday, Dec. 15, from 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at the Brady Sullivan Plaza (1000 Elm St.). More than 50 local vendors will be selling a variety of homemade products and gift ideas. Visit intownmanchester.com or call 645-6285.

Don't miss the **Rollinsford Winter Craft Market** to be held simultaneously with the town's winter Farmer's Market on Saturday, Dec. 17, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Wentworth Greenhouses (141 Rollins Road). Visit wentworthgreenhouses.com or call 743-4919.

The **Woodland Heights School PTO Holiday Craft Fair** will be held on Saturday, Dec. 17, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the school's gymnasium (225 Winter St., Laconia) and will feature dozens of local craft vendors. Visit whs-laconia.weebly.com or call 998-7416.

spans more than two miles and features hundreds of light displays and holiday scenes along the way. Every day through Dec. 31, 4:30 to 9 p.m., except for Christmas Day. New Hampshire Motor Speedway, 1122 Route 106 North, Loudon. \$20 per car at the gate; buses are \$20 for the first 15 people and \$2 for each additional person. You get a \$2 discount if you bring at least items for donation to the Loudon Food Pantry. Visit giftflight-nhms.com or call 513-5708.

• **CHRISTMAS EVE ON THE MILFORD OVAL** Featuring an outdoor Christmas Carol service, hot drinks, refreshments and more. Sat., Dec. 24, 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. Milford Oval, Union Square, Milford. Free. Visit lwccnh.org or call 673-9324.

Religion-related events

• **LIVE NATIVITY** Visitors will be greeted by Bethlehem townspeople and recorded in the census taking place, then travel on to see the shepherds with their sheep, the Wise Men traveling toward the town, and finally the manger area where they will receive the Newborn King. Many live animals for the kids to enjoy, caroling, cookies and more will be featured. Sat., Dec. 17, 5 to 8 p.m. Grace Ministries International, 263 NH-125, Brentwood. Free, but donations will be accepted. Visit gracemi.org or call 642-7848.

• **LIVING NATIVITY AT STARK PARK** Brookside Congregational Church will host this living nativity event, which will be followed by community Christmas caroling at the bandstand with the Friends of Stark Park. Sat., Dec. 17, 3:30 p.m. Stark Park, River Road, Manchester. Free and open to the public. Visit brooksidedcc.info or call 669-2807.

• **FAMILY CAROL SING-ALONG AND CANDLE-LIGHT SERVICE** ASUMC

will celebrate Christmas Eve beginning at 6:30 p.m. with a family carol sing-along, followed by a candlelight service at 7 p.m. All are welcome. Sat., Dec. 24, 6:30 p.m. Arlington Street United Methodist Church, 63 Arlington St., Nashua. Free. Visit asumc.net or call 882-4663.

Video game events

• **RETRO VIDEO GAME EVENT** Whether you enjoyed these games in the past or are looking to experience them for the first time, this will be a fun event for all ages. This event will focus on home consoles from the 80s and 90s. Children under the age of 12 must be accompanied by parents. Thurs., Dec. 29, 3 to 5:15 p.m. West Manchester Branch Library, 76 Main St., Manchester. Free. Visit manchester.lib.nh.us or call 624-6560.

Workshops

• **POLICE OFFICER ACTIVE SHOOTER TRAINING** Learn how to improve your chances of survival during active shooter situations in a workshop offered by the Nashua Police Department. The police will also give hands-on instruction on controlling bleeding with tourniquets, pressure bandages, chest seals and other treatments. Sat., Jan. 7, 9:15 a.m. to 1:15 p.m. Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Free. Visit tinyurl.com/npllectures or call 589-4610.

Museums & Tours History & museum events

• **AMHERST LYCEUM PART 1 OF 2: WHETHER WAR HAD BEEN BENEFICIAL TO MANKIND** This evening presentation will be divided down into three segments. First, time will be spent tracing Western historical conceptions that have been used to justify war.

Christopher Brooks, senior level social studies teacher at Souhegan High School, will lead. The second portion of this session will offer an assessment of how war has produced both positive and negative outcomes. The final component of the evening will be led by a student panel who will offer their insights on this important question and open the evening for the audience to offer their own perspective. Wed., Jan. 4, 7 p.m. Amherst Town Library, 14 Main St., Amherst. Free. Visit amherstlibrary.org or call 673-2288.

Nature & Gardening Animals/insects

• **OPEN SCREEN NIGHT** The Nashaway Chapter of NH Audubon welcomes the public to its free Open Screen Night to share photos and stories about wildlife and the outdoors. Wed., Dec. 21, 7 p.m. Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Free. Call 424-5621 or email richard.maloon@att.net. Astronomy

• **WINTER SKYWATCH** The New Hampshire Astronomical Society will be holding a winter skywatch. Wed., Dec. 28, 5 to 7 p.m. Nesmith Library, 8 Fellows Road, Windham. Free. Visit nesmithlibrary.org or call 432-7154.

Birding events

• **NASHUA-HOLLIS CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT** If you are familiar with bird identification and would like to participate, either in the field or at home as a feeder counter, join the Nashaway Chapter of the NH Audubon for this annual event. Fri., Dec. 30, 5 p.m. Spear Room at Beaver Brook's Maple Hill Farm, 117 Ridge Road, Hollis. A \$5 fee will be collected in the evening for a hot dinner and refreshments. Visit nh.audubon.org/birding/christmas-bird-count or call 429-2537.

Trailblazing

Beaver Brook hosts winter 5K



It's never too cold for a 5K. Courtesy photo.

By Matt Ingersoll
mingsersoll@hippopress.com

The winter season is just beginning, so before the cold shocks you into indoors-only activities, hit the trails for the annual Beaver Brook Winter 5K in Hollis on Sunday, Dec. 18 — you'll even get a chance to win some nature-themed swag.

The race will kick off at 9 a.m. at the Beaver Brook Association's main office building before traversing down one of the major trails in the woods. It is being presented in partnership with 3C Race Productions and the Moose Milers Running Club, which specializes in trail-based runs.

The first 100 runners to register will receive race T-shirts, but all runners will receive goodie bags. Beaver Brook-themed pint glasses will also be awarded to the top three male and female finishers overall and to the top two male and female finishers in seven different age groups.

At the end of the race, you will get a chance to draw from a raffle and win several nature-themed door prizes, including Hanteens, strap lights, Road ID kits and more.

Except for a slight incline on the way back, the trail is mostly flat, allowing for a relatively easy race route for the average runner.

"It's technically a little under a 5K, but when you see people finishing the race, oftentimes they're panting pretty hard," said Celeste Philbrick Barr, education and community affairs director for the Beaver Brook Association. "But I would say if anyone is used to running 5K distances regularly or used to doing any sort of running on trails, that this would be a moderately easy run for them."

Although several outdoor events are held throughout the year at Beaver Brook rain or shine, including 5Ks and other races that

typically have larger turnouts in the summer, Philbrick Barr said weather conditions often have to be taken into account during the winter months. But winter races in the past have still been held in even the worst of weather. A snowshoe-themed race is often run at the end of January every year.

"There are people out there who are going to run every day of the year no matter what, even in December," she said, "Obviously, the December and January races are always kind of dicey, and the weather doesn't always comply. We especially have to make sure the trails aren't covered with ice if there is freezing rain. ... I believe there was a race the winter before last that was scheduled for one of the days we had a blizzard, and Mike [from 3C Race Productions] still came instead of canceling it, and we still had about eight or 10 people that came to run the race."

Philbrick Barr said this kind of race lends opportunities for Beaver Brook to educate visitors on how to prepare for cold and snowy weather when outside for any extended period of time.

"Part of teaching people about nature is teaching them to dress appropriately for winter and assuring them that they are not going to melt, they are not sugarcubes, and they are not going to freeze to death as long as they do that," she said. "That's a big thing we've learned, is that as long as people learn about what to wear, they can totally enjoy any kind of weather outside."

Beaver Brook Winter 5K

When: Sunday, Dec. 18, 9 a.m.

Where: Begins and ends at the Beaver Brook Association, 117 Ridge Road, Hollis (race takes place on trails behind the main office building)

Cost: \$20 registration

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111505

It's time to say goodbye to faithful truck



By Ray Magliozzi

Dear Car Talk:

I have been eyeing a lot of new vehicles lately. Why? Has my everyday driver reached its useful life? It is a black, 1982 Toyota pickup with an R-22 engine, five speeds, cruise control, air conditioning, power steering, opening roof window, audio — still a very nice-looking vehicle. But it is beginning to blow blue smoke out of the tailpipe. The engine has never been worked on. The only major repair I've done is a new clutch. It has 208,000 miles, but the odometer stopped about 10 years ago. I have been driving and caring for this truck for 34 years and still use it every day. Question: Should I get new pis-

ton rings or whatever it takes to repair the oil consumption? Or pick out a new vehicle? — Lee

Is the dealership open now, Lee?

I had a modicum of sympathy for fixing it until you mentioned that the odometer stopped 10 years ago. I think you got more than your money's worth out of this truck.

And while you could rebuild the engine, that could just be the start of a long restoration process. I mean, with an estimated 300,000 miles on this truck, everything could be, and should be, ready to crumble.

Plus, you're missing out on some wonderful innovations that have been introduced in the past 34 years. Like sound insulation. Not to mention fuel injection, air bags, crumple zones, stability control, keyless entry and ignition, anti-lock brakes, advanced pollution controls, Bluetooth, backup cameras and automatic emergency braking. And don't forget CD players. You probably were too early for one of those in 1982. And if you don't hurry up, you're going to miss the CD era entirely.

Generally speaking, we recommend a new car every 34 years or so, whether you need one or not. Based on our calculations — let's assume you bought this

truck 34 years ago, when you were 18 — your next 34-year truck should last you the rest of your natural life. You might even want that on your tombstone: "Here Lies Lee. Made it through life on only two vehicles."

So you have my unreserved permission to buy a new car, Lee. Some college student or part-time weekend farmer will be thrilled to buy this truck from you for \$1,000 and put a quart of oil in it every few fill-ups. And you can enjoy the newer-car smell for the next three and half decades.

Dear Car Talk:

I have a 6-cylinder 1994 Buick Century, and my parking lights have stopped working. I have checked the fuse, and it's good. I put in new bulbs, and still no parking lights. Next I set out to change the parking-light relay, but I can't find where it's located. Can anyone help me? — David

Somebody probably can. You might try asking someone with enough brain cells left to remember the electrical diagram for a 1994 Buick.

Actually, I remember 1994 like it was yesterday. I can picture myself striding into the voting booth and pulling the lever for

President Cleveland. Wait, that was 1894. I do remember this car, David, and I don't think you have a relay for the parking lights. If there is a relay, it's part of the headlight switch on this car. So, you very well may need a new light switch. If I remember correctly, they used an odd little pushbutton gizmo, located all the way on the left end of the dashboard.

On the other hand, your light bulb sockets could be corroded. That can happen every few decades. So, as a first step, I'd get under the front bumper, unplug the pigtail from the back of the parking-light socket and, with the parking lights switched on, use a test light to see if you're getting electricity there. If you're not, then it's the switch. If you are getting power, then you may need to replace the light sockets.

You can find all that stuff online. I don't think any of these parts (the sockets or the switch) will run you more than about \$25. And if you're reasonably handy, you can do the work yourself.

And if you're not reasonably handy, anything else you break probably can be found online, too. Good luck.

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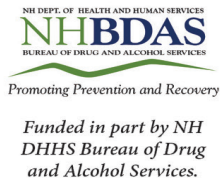


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Dr. Puccini is a graduate of Case Western Reserve University School of Dentistry in Cleveland, Ohio. He is a general dentist with a special interest in implant, cosmetic dentistry and sleep medicine. He and his wife, Dr. Susan Roberge, have owned and operated their dental practice in Bedford for over 30 years.



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ON THE JOB

TRACEY TULLIS

HYPNOTHERAPIST

Tracey Tullis of Bedford is a certified hypnotherapist and health educator at Choice For Hypnosis in Bedford.

Q: Explain what your current job is.

A hypnotherapist acts as a teacher, a facilitator ... a guide. We guide other people with their permission to enter a very natural state of hypnosis, which opens the doorway into the subconscious mind. It's a comfortable state where suggestibility is heightened, mental absorption is increased and so is a person's imagination, which is activated. So their inner part of the mind becomes more receptive to acceptable beneficial changes. ... Does it work for everyone? In my experience, I would say [yes] for 90 percent.

How long have you worked in your career?

I've worked as a hypnotherapist since 1998.

How did you get interested in this field?

It was many, many years ago. I'm 68 right now. Many years ago, I worked for my father, who was an oral surgeon in New York. ... And occasionally a patient would come in to get his or her tooth extracted. Sometimes, they ... couldn't have gas ... or they were afraid of using needles. So my father would offer them hypnosis to extract their teeth and I would watch my father hypnotize the person.

What kind of education or training did you need for this job?

For my job I have a bachelor degree in behavioral science and I have a master's degree. And I also have a certification in hypnosis. I went back to school to do some continuing education classes at Harvard for hypnosis, and I went back to school again to get a graduate certification in eating disorders ... to help people who are compulsive overeaters or emotional eaters.

How did you find your current job?

I applied my education, my knowledge, my degrees and opened my own business.

What's the best piece of work-related advice anyone's ever given you?

My dad told me to always be professional. My professors told me to continue my education. Other people in the field, one of them, told me to be sure I received informed consent. ... Focus on the client and, for myself, my own advice is always have empathy.



Tracey Tullis. Courtesy photo.

What do you wish you'd known at the beginning of your career?

I learned so many different types of techniques in hypnosis but I realized over the years that giving the person their time and some attention and some positive regard, that is a very powerful way to help a person help themselves, just listening to them and giving them that unconditional positive regard.

What is your typical at-work uniform?

[I] dress professionally.

What was the first job you ever had?

My very first job, I was a camp counselor at Long Beach, Long Island.

— Ryan Lessard

What's something you're really interested in right now?

I love reading and I just got a book ... and I'm loving it. It's called *Born to Run* by Bruce Springsteen and it's fantastic.

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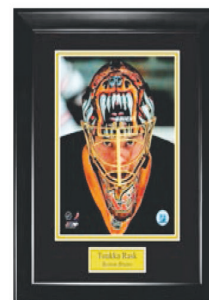
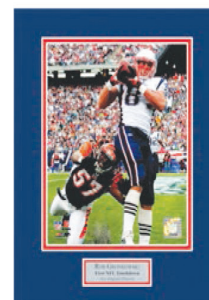
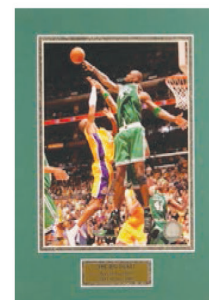
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News from the local food scene

By Angie Sykeny
food@hippopress.com

FOOD Bring it on home

Where to order prepared holiday meals to-go

By Angie Sykeny
food@hippopress.com

Whether it's for the sides, desserts, main dish or whole meal, place your holiday food orders now at these local restaurants, butcher shops, bakeries and catering services.

• **Gummy Bare All:** MegaFood (800-848-2542, megafood.com), a Manchester-based manufacturer of nutritional supplements made from farm-fresh whole foods, is inviting consumer participation in developing a new line of food-based gummy vitamins. The initiative, Gummy Bare All, will feature live-stream updates with surveys, polls and reports shared via Facebook Live where viewers will have the chance to weigh in on the process, from conception to market.

"We're excited about our first project collaborating with consumers," Director of Innovation Stacey Gillespie told the Hippo. "We really want to get their insight and direct input on things like the flavor and texture palatability and ingredients."

MegaFood is looking to develop gummy supplements for vitamin B-12, vitamin B-6, vitamin C and vitamin D using organic ingredients like ginger, cranberry, blueberry and beets.

"Adding whole food ingredients is novel when typically gummy vitamins add them as a generic extract," Gillespie said. "We're looking to add more meaningful potency of food ingredients that preserves their natural color and taste and all those aromatic compounds that get lost."

MegaFood is also seeking 15 to 20 people to serve on a virtual advisory panel as well as five dedicated panelists who will join key meetings at the Manchester headquarters. For more information on Gummy Bare All or to apply to become a panelist, visit megafood.com/gummybare.

• **Local Basket expands:** The meal subscription service Local Basket (localbasket.com, 270-9220) will soon have its own facility in Concord for production and pickup as well as new classes on nutrition and cooking. Local Basket launched its website in June, offering weekly home delivery and pickup at local farmers markets for its locally sourced cook-at-home meal kits. Though it's based in Concord, operations for Local Basket have been held at Genuine Local in Meredith, a food production facility that provides work space and guidance for small and startup food businesses. "Genuine Local was my bridge — they helped me get from concept to implementation," owner and founder Beth

50 ▶

Looking for more food and drink fun? Check out **Hippo Scout**, available via the Apple App Store, Google Play and hipposcout.com.

• **Alpine Grove** (19 S. Depot Road, Hollis, 882-9051, alpinegrove.com) offers three holiday meal options: turkey with stuffing, gravy and cranberry sauce (\$149.99); prime rib (\$259.99) and roasted ham (\$149.99). Meals include mashed potatoes, carrots, butternut squash, rolls and apple pie. Order by Dec. 19.

• **Angela's Pasta and Cheese Shop** (815 Chestnut St., Manchester, 625-9544, angelaspastaandcheese.com) offers Brussels sprouts (\$8.95/pound), potatoes au gratin (\$9.95 to \$24.95), gnocchi (\$14.95/pound), Mediterranean caprese salad (\$14.95/pound), cranberry relish (\$4.95/pint), mince meat (\$3.95/pint), salmon and pork pies (\$17.95) and various breads (priced by loaf/dozen). Desserts include pies like chocolate cream, banana cream, southern apple, Boston creme and more (\$18.95 to \$25.95); cherry white chocolate cheesecake, red velvet and chocolate mousse tree cakes, yule log and tiramisu (\$20.95 to \$39.95); dessert platters (\$17.95 to \$19.95) and more. Order by Dec. 19.

• **The Bakeshop On Kelley Street** (171 Kelley St., Manchester, 624-3500, thebakeshoponkelleystreet.com) offers pastry and breakfast trays (starting at \$22), pies (\$16 to \$20), cakes (starting at \$18), Christmas cookies (\$1.50 to \$3), Yule logs with chocolate cake, chocolate mousse and chocolate buttercream, and "birch Yule logs" with vanilla cake and whipped cream (\$18 to \$32). Order by Dec. 20.

• **Black Forest Cafe** (212 Route 101, Amherst, 672-0500, theblackforestcafe.com) offers pies including apple, Dutch apple, cranberry apple, pecan and chocolate cream (\$19); white chocolate frangelico torte, Brooklyn blackout, carrot, coconut and chocolate mousse cakes (small \$24, large \$36); eggnog tart (\$26), pear-cranberry walnut crostata (\$20 to \$26), various holiday cookies (\$14.95/dozen), Russian teacakes (\$9.95/dozen), peanut butter balls (\$6.95/half-dozen) and holiday cookie gift baskets (\$21 to \$48). Order by Dec. 20 at 8 p.m.

• **Boston Market** (14 March Ave., Manchester, 641-9464, bostonmarket.com) offers a complete turkey meal serving 4 to 6 (\$84.99) or 12 (\$109); a turkey essential meal serving 12 (\$94.99); a complete ham



meal serving 12 (\$114.99); a complete turkey-ham combo meal serving 12 (\$114.99); and an essential turkey-ham combo meal serving 4 to 6 (\$69.99). Essential meals include mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy and rolls while complete meals include additional sides and apple or pumpkin pie. All items are also available a la carte.

• **Brothers Butcher** (8 Spit Brook Road, Nashua, 809-4180, brothers-butcher.com) offers roasts priced per pound including top sirloin, boneless and bone-in prime rib, tenderloin, strip, pork loin (crown roast, stuffed, boneless or frenched bone-in), leg of lamb and boneless, bone-in and smoked ham. Sides include mashed potatoes (\$7.99/quart), roasted vegetables and herb-roasted potatoes (each \$8.99/quart); and port wine demi glaze, au jus, pork, chicken and turkey gravies (\$8.99/quart).

• **Caroline's Fine Food** (132 Bedford Center Road, Bedford, 637-1615, carolines-food.com) offers appetizers like salmon terrine (\$65), chicken liver pate (\$28), brie en croute (\$25), poached shrimp with cocktail sauce (small \$50.25, large \$100.50) and more; entrees including roast duck (\$65), stuffed turkey ballotine (\$55) and roasted beef tenderloin (\$175); and sides like roasted butternut squash and Brussels sprouts (each \$30.25 to \$64.25), carrot confit, sautéed haricot verts and mashed potatoes (each \$22.25 to \$45.25) and turkey gravy (\$10/pint or \$20/quart). Order by Dec. 15.

• **Cupcakes 101** (132 Bedford Center Road, Bedford, 488-5962, cupcakes101.net) offers holiday cupcakes including candy cane, eggnog, gingerbread, pistachio

cardamom, sugar cookie, White Christmas (white cake with lemon-almond center and white chocolate coffee buttercream) and Winter Lager (Sam Adams Winter Lager beer-infused cake with ginger, orange zest and orange buttercream). The minimum order is a dozen (\$30 per dozen).

• **Frederick's Pastries** (109 Route 101A, Amherst, 882-7725; Bedford Square, 25 S. River Road, Bedford, 647-2253, pastry.net) offers holiday platters with mini whoopie pies, chocolate pretzels, cookies and other assorted desserts (\$19.99 to \$44.99); cookies (\$3.75 to \$8.99), cupcakes (\$4.99) and cakes (\$15.99 to \$49.99) in Rudolph, Santa and other holiday shapes; gingerbread treats like cookie trees (\$19.99), houses (\$69.99) and house kits (\$49.99), edible cookie jars (\$89.99), tortes (\$34.99) and more; Yule log (\$31.99), loaf cake (\$19.99), cheesecakes (\$36.99 to \$39.99), snowman fudge bars (\$14.98/dozen), cannolis (\$3.99) and more.

• **The Fresh Market** (79 S. River Road, Unit 2, Bedford, 626-3420, thefreshmarket.com) offers a traditional holiday dinner with a fully cooked turkey, potatoes, stuffing, gravy, cranberry relish and rolls (\$79.99, serves 8 to 10); a deluxe holiday dinner with the same items plus a ham, corn souffle and green beans in bacon sauce (\$139.99, serves 12 to 14); and a small-gatherings dinner with turkey breast and traditional sides plus green beans (\$49.99, serves 4 to 6). Meal items and additional roasts, entrees, sides, breads, appetizers, desserts and party platters are available a la carte.

• **Hart's Turkey Farm** (233 Daniel Webster Hwy., Meredith, 279-6212, hartsturkeyfarm.com) offers cooked turkeys with stuffing and gravy (priced per pound), sides including cranberry sauce, whipped potatoes, squash, green beans, pickled beets, carrot relish and cranberry chutney (priced per pint and/or quart); rolls and cornbread (\$3.99/dozen), coffee bread, fruit cake and pumpkin bread (\$7.99 each); chocolate, carrot and cran-orange cakes (\$15.99 to \$29.99); pies including apple, chocolate cream, pecan, pumpkin and more (\$14.99 to \$24.99); cheesecake (\$34.99) and apple crisp (\$39.99).

• **Just Like Mom's Pastries** (353 Riverdale Road, Weare, 529-6667, justlikemomspastries.com) offers eggnog tiramisu, cookies and cream cheesecake and Yule log (\$20 to \$31); mudslide, raspberry and "sex in a bowl" trifle bowls (\$30); Appalachian apple, caramel sea salt and Kahlua black bottom pies (\$14.50 to \$15); and dessert platters with cookies, finger pastries or mini whoopie pies (\$24 to \$72). Coffee cake

(\$13.99), meat or veggie quiche (\$16.50), pork pie (\$15.99) and dinner rolls (\$4.99/dozen) are also available. Order by Dec. 20.

• **McNulty & Foley Caterers** (124 E. Hollis St., Nashua, 882-1921, mcnulty-catering.com) offers four dinner options priced per person: slow-roasted beef sirloin (\$16.95), sweet and spicy ham (\$13.95), chicken pie (\$13.95) and roast turkey (\$14.95). Dinners include several sides (also available a la carte). Other items are lasagna and macaroni and cheese (full pan \$60, half pan \$30), pork pie (\$15) and Swedish and Italian meatballs (\$2.50). Desserts include whoopie pies and lemon squares (each \$10/dozen), grape nut custard pudding (\$3 per serving), an assorted dessert platter (\$3.50 per serving, minimum of 10), an assorted cookie platter and chocolate macaroons (each \$2.25 per serving). Order by Dec. 21.

• **Michelle's Gourmet Pastries & Deli** (819 Union St., Manchester, 647-7150, michellespastries.com) offers mini petit fours, eclairs, fruit tarts and cannolis (\$0.75 to \$1.99 each); assorted mini dessert platters with linzer bars, holiday cookies, chocolate-dipped strawberries and more (\$15.99 to \$37.99); assorted cookie platters (\$15.99 to \$29); and Yule log (\$29). Regular cakes and pies are also available.

• **Newell Post Restaurant** (125 Fisherville Road, Concord, 228-0522, newellpostrestaurant.com) offers two holiday meal options priced per person: choice prime rib with au jus sauce (\$28.99) and turkey with stuffing, cranberry sauce and gravy (\$19.99). Meals include roasted red potatoes, sugar snap peas, honey-glazed carrots, confetti salad, rolls and a choice of pumpkin mousse gingerbread torte or cheesecake with eggnog whipped topping.

• **Queen City Cupcakes** (790 Elm St., Manchester, 624-4999, qccupcakes.com) offers cupcakes in holiday flavors like sugar cookie, gingerbread, hot cocoa, coconut snowball, eggnog, peppermint mocha and more. Various packages are available. Order by Dec. 21.

• **The Red Arrow Diner** (61 Lowell St., Manchester, 626-1118; 137 Rockingham Road, Londonderry, 552-3091; 63 Union Square, Milford, 249-9222; redarrowdiner.com) offers pies including apple, chocolate cream, cherry, pumpkin cream, pecan and more (\$14.99); and double-layered cakes including almond raspberry, Boston creme, pumpkin spice, rocky road and more (\$29.99). Order at least two days in advance.

• **The Stocked Fridge** (704 Milford Road, Merrimack, 881-9635, thestocked-fridge.com) offers a brined turkey (\$3/pound, 10-pound minimum), Dijon maple-glazed spiral ham (\$4.50/pound, 5-pound minimum), gravy (\$8/quart), roast beef tenderloin with port sauce (\$19/pound), cran-apple salad (small \$14, large \$21) garlic roasted small red potatoes (\$2.80

per serving), stuffing, brown sugar sweet potatoes, mashed potatoes, green beans with caramelized shallots, roasted winter squash, broccoli au gratin and cranberry sauce (each \$3.10/serving); assorted rolls (\$7/dozen), mini pastries platter (\$3 per serving) and pecan pie (\$15). Order by Dec. 19, at noon.

• **T-BONES Meats, Sweets & Catering** (66 Union St., Manchester, 488-2828, wecatergreater.com) offers various butcher cuts of beef, chicken and pork (prices vary); prepared entrees serving 6 to 10 or 10 to 20 including roast turkey (\$70/\$126), lasagna (\$50/\$90), pot roast (\$90/\$162), prime rib (\$120/\$216) and more; various sides, party platters and desserts, including holiday sweet treat boxes (\$13.99) and platters (\$24.99) that feature an assortment of raspberry and lemon squares, white chocolate chunk brownie bites and chocolate chip cookies.

• **Tuscan Market** (63 Main St., Salem, 912-5467, tuscanbrands.com) offers three holiday meal options: a whole roasted turkey with insalata mista, roasted pears, orecchiette pasta, Brussels sprouts and pancetta, whipped potatoes and gravy (\$175); a standing rib roast with insalata mista, green beans and cherry tomatoes, truffled gnocchi, whipped potato and red wine beef marrow sauce (\$225); and leoncini ham with mista salad, butternut squash, lasagna, whipped potatoes and mustard-rosemary sauce (\$150). Dinners come with a bottle of paired Italian wine. Additional roasts and sides are available a la carte, and desserts include various Italian pastries, cookies, cakes, pies and more (prices vary).

• **Twelve Pine** (Depot Square, 11 School St., Peterborough, 924-6140, twelvepine.com) offers two holiday meal options serving 5 to 12 people (\$164.99 to \$264.99): roasted turkey and stuffing or baked spiral ham and maple-ginger roasted sweet potatoes. Sides include mashed potatoes, roasted vegetables, green beans amandine, winter squash bisque, gravy, rolls and a choice of pie. Meal items and additional sides are available a la carte. Appetizer platters with crudites (\$20), brie en croute (\$30) and cheese (\$55); a dessert platter (\$30), stollen (\$22/loaf), buche de noel (\$37) and various pies (\$17) are also available. Order by Dec. 20, at 7 p.m.

• **Two Friends Cafe** (542 Mast Road, Goffstown, 627-6622, twofriendsbagel.com) offers meals serving 2 to 12 people (\$39.99 to \$129.99) including ham or turkey, mashed potatoes, stuffing, cranberry sauce, gravy, corn, butternut squash, a choice of soup and pie. Meal items are also available a la carte, and there is pork pie (\$13.99), vegetable, chicken and turkey pot pies (\$12.99). Desserts include fruit pies and crisps, cream pies and cheesecake (\$11.99 to \$14.99); chocolate, red velvet and pumpkin whoopie pies (\$14.99/ 42 ▶

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• **Washington Street Catering** (88 Washington St., Concord, 228-2000, washingtonstreetcatering.com) offers holiday meals for \$19.95 per person (10-person minimum). The traditional meal includes ham or turkey, stuffed mushrooms, a cheese and fruit platter, garden or Caesar salad, stuffing, mashed potatoes, butternut squash, rolls and assorted mini desserts or pie (apple, pumpkin or pecan). Lamb leg and beef Wellington are also available. The Mediterranean meal includes chicken or beef kabobs, stuffed grape leaves, hummus with pita chips, Greek or tabouli salad, rice pilaf, roasted vegetables, pita bread and assorted Mediterranean desserts. Lamb and seafood kabobs are also available.

• **Whole Foods Market** (121 South River Road, Bedford, 218-1900; 255 Amherst St., Nashua, 318-7550, wholefoodsmarket.com) offers turkey dinners serving 2 to 10 people (\$39.99 to \$169.99) with

mashed potatoes, green beans, cranberry-orange relish, gravy, apple pie and rolls; a ham dinner (\$59.99, serves 4) with mashed potatoes, green beans, roasted butternut squash and cranberry-orange relish; fresh and cooked turkeys and other meats priced per pound; lasagna (\$34.99, serves 6 to 8), vegan dinners and other entrees; and various appetizers, platters, sides and desserts.

• **The Wine'ing Butcher** (16 Sheep Davis Road, Pembroke, 856-8855; 254 Wallace Road, Bedford, 488-5519; 28 Weirs Road, Gilford, 293-4670; 81 Route 25, Meredith, 279-0300, thewineingbutcher.com) offers various cuts of USDA choice and prime beef, hams and fresh turkey (priced per pound); stuffed shrimp, sole and lobster tail; cheese, meat and vegetable lasagnas; stuffings, gravies, potatoes and asparagus risotto; various appetizer platters, mini crab cakes, deviled eggs, bacon-wrapped scallops and more; and desserts including creme brulee, peppermint cheesecake, chocolate mousse cake, chocolate cream pie and cheesecake. 🍷

Merry meals

Where to dine out for Christmas Eve and Christmas Day

By Angie Sykeny
food@hippopress.com

Go out for a special holiday dinner or enjoy a meal from one of these local restaurants open Christmas Eve on Saturday, Dec. 24, and Christmas Day on Sunday, Dec. 25.

Special meals

• **A Tuscan Christmas Carol** (Tuscan Kitchen, 67 Main St., Salem, 952-4875, tuscanbrands.com) takes place the day before Christmas Eve on Friday, Dec. 23, from 7 to 9 p.m. The event features a four-course holiday dinner including a meat and cheese sampler, rigatoni, wood-grilled sirloin and double chocolate gelato. There will also be live music tributes to Frank Sinatra and Dean Martin. Tickets cost \$116.20.

• **Christmas Day Buffet at Bedford Village Inn** (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com) will be served for guests from 2 to 6 p.m., in the Charolais Room of The Grand. The menu features stationary displays like poached shrimp with cocktail sauce, smoked salmon and a charcuterie and cheese board; soups, salads and focaccia; entrees including rigatoni pasta, cod fillet and chicken breast with herbed jus; a carving station including turkey with cranberry sauce and gravy, smoked honey Dijon ham, mashed potatoes, Brussels sprouts and rolls; and a dessert buffet with assorted finger pastries,

tortes, cakes, pies and cookies. The cost is \$65 for adults and \$29 for children.

• **Christmas Day Buffet at the Wentworth** (Wentworth by the Sea, 588 Wentworth Road, New Castle, 422-7322, wentworth.com) will be served from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. in the Wentworth Ballroom. The menu features a chilled salad bar, freshly squeezed fruit juices, a raw bar, an omelet station, a Belgian waffle station, an artisan cheese display, a carving station with prime rib and ham, various seasonal hot entrees, a dessert display and complimentary Champagne. The cost is \$54.95 for adults and \$24.95 for children under age 12.

• **Christmas Dinner at the Wentworth** (Wentworth by the Sea, 588 Wentworth Road, New Castle, 422-7322, wentworth.com) will be served on Christmas Day from 1 to 10 p.m., in the SALT Kitchen and Bar. The three-course menu includes hardwood-smoked turkey, pan-seared swordfish, cocoa- and chili-rubbed cadillac beef ribeye and wild mushroom ravioli. The cost is \$54.95 for adults and \$24.95 for children under age 12.

• **Christmas Eve Dinner at Bedford Village Inn** (2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com) will be served from 4:30 to 8:30 p.m., in the dining room and Corks wine bar. The three-course prix fixe menu features appetizers including chestnut soup, calamari, shrimp, potato and cheddar bisque, stuffed cabbage and duck leg confit; salads and entrees including pan-roasted salmon,



shellfish, roasted chicken breast, roasted pork loin, duet of beef, roasted cauliflower and pheasant breast. A children's menu features chestnut soup and macaroni and cheese as appetizers; and entrees including roasted salmon, roast chicken breast, filet mignon and chicken fingers. A grand dessert buffet and cordials will be served in the Great Hall following dinner. The cost is \$79 for adults and \$39 for children. Reservations are required.

• **Christmas Eve Dinner at Copper Door** (15 Leavy Drive, Bedford, 488-2677, copperdoorrestaurant.com) will accept reservations until 8 p.m. The prix fixe menu features soups and salads, small plates including wild mushroom tart, shrimp cocktail, sirloin spring rolls and tuna tartare; entrees including New York sirloin, grilled swordfish, macadamia-crusted short rib, pan-seared halibut, wild mushroom ravioli and sesame seared duck; and desserts including candy cane cheesecake, salted caramel tart and warm cookies with crème anglaise. Dinner is offered in two-course (\$59), three-course (\$69) and four-course (\$79) options.

• **Christmas Eve Dinner at Epoch Restaurant & Bar** (The Exeter Inn, 90 Front St., Exeter, 778-3762, epochrestaurant.com) will be served from 4:30 to 10 p.m. The six-course prix fixe menu features prosciutto and fig crostini as an amuse bouche; soups and salads; appetizers including lobster tail macaroni and cheese, grilled quail and port poached pear; entrees including bronzed sea scallops, brined pork chops, char grilled filet mignon, pan roasted salmon and a duck duo; and desserts including eggnog creme brulee, flourless chocolate cake and gingerbread pudding. The cost is \$59.99 per person. Dinner with a wine pairing costs \$85.99.

• **Christmas Eve Feast Buffet at Giorgios Ristorante** (524 Nashua St., Milford, 673-3939; 270 Granite St., Manchester, 232-3323, giorgios.com) will accept res-

ervations from 4 to 8:30 p.m. The cost is \$34.99 for adults and \$14.99 for kids under age 12.

• **The Eve of Christmas Eve Dinner at Colby Hill Inn** (33 The Oaks, Henniker, 428-3281, colbyhillinn.com) takes place the day before Christmas Eve on Friday, Dec. 23. The three-course menu features appetizers including Slovak sour mushroom soup, wild mushroom and sauerkraut pierogi, winter green salad and cheese fondue; entrees including a roast goose with cherry kumquat relish, wiener schnitzel and juniper roast venison loin; and desserts including apple strudel, sacher torte and christstollen with chocolate-dipped ginger lebkuchen cookie. There will also be bar specials including Glühwein, Kirschwasser and Bauer's Obstler Pear and Apple Brandy. The cost is \$65.

• **Feast of the Seven Fishes at Tuscan Kitchen** (67 Main St., Salem, 952-4875, tuscanbrands.com) authentic Italian meal takes place on Christmas Eve from 3 to 8 p.m. The cost is \$55 per person, or \$85 to include a wine pairing.

• **Grand Christmas Feast at Lakehouse Grille** (281 Daniel Webster Highway, Meredith, 279-5221, thecman.com) will be served on Christmas Day from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The menu features starters including shrimp with cocktail sauce, corn and lobster chowder, salads and assorted breads; entrees including roasted chicken, baked cod, whipped potatoes, roasted squash, creamed Brussels sprouts and mashed sweet potatoes; a carving station with slow-roasted sirloin or beef, caramelized onion au jus and grilled and roasted brined pork loin; and desserts including assorted cakes, pies and pastries. The cost is \$42.95 for adults and \$18.95 for kids under age 13.

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 Epping, 734-2809, 900degrees.com) will
 be open from 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• **Airport Diner** (2280 Brown Ave.,
 Manchester, 623-5040, thecman.com) will
 be open from 5 a.m. to 3 p.m.

• **Alan's of Boscawen** (133 N. Main St.,
 Boscawen, 753-6631, alansofboscawen.
 com) will be open from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

• **The Barley House** (132 N. Main St.,
 Concord, 228-6363; 43 Lafayette Road,
 North Hampton, 379-9161, thebarley-
 house.com) will be open for lunch starting
 at 11 a.m. Dinner hours TBD.

• **The Bistro at LaBelle Winery** (345
 Route 101, Amherst, 672-9898, thebis-
 troatlabelle.com) will be open from 11 a.m.
 to 3 p.m.

• **The Black Forest Cafe** (212 Route
 101, Amherst, 672-0500, theblackforestca-
 fe.com) will be seating in the dining room
 from 11 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., and closing at 3
 p.m. The marketplace will be open from 8
 a.m. to 3 p.m.

• **Cactus Jack's** (782 S. Willow St.,
 Manchester, 627-8600; 1182 Union Ave.,
 Laconia, 528-7800, cactusjacksnh.com)
 will be open from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

• **Canoe Restaurant** (216 S. Riv-
 er Road, Bedford, 935-8070; 232
 Whittier Highway., Center Harbor, 253-
 4762, magicfoodsrestaurantgroup.com/
 canoe-restaurant-and-tavern) will be open
 and taking reservations until 8 p.m.

• **The Coach Stop Restaurant & Tav-
 ern** (176 Mammoth Road, Londonderry,
 437-2022, coachstopnh.com) will be open
 from 4 to 9 p.m., with a modified Christ-
 mas Eve dinner menu.

• **Common Man Restaurants** (25 Water
 St., Concord, 228-3463; 304 Daniel Webster
 Highway, Merrimack, 429-3463; 60 Main
 St., Ashland, 968-7030; thecman.com) will
 serve lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.

• **Country Tavern** (452 Amherst St.,
 Nashua, 889-5871, countrytavern.org) will
 be open and seating until 2:30 p.m.

• **Cucina Toscana** (427 Amherst St.,
 Nashua, 821-7356, cucinatoscanaanashua.
 com) will be open during its regular hours,
 from noon to 10 p.m.

• **The Derryfield Restaurant** (625
 Mammoth Road, Manchester, 623-2880,
 thederryfield.com) will be open for lunch
 and dinner until 6 p.m.

• **Epoch Restaurant & Bar** (The Exeter
 Inn, 90 Front St., Exeter, 778-3762, epoch-
 restaurant.com) will be open for its regular
 breakfast from 7 to 10 a.m., and lunch from
 noon to 2 p.m.

• **Firefly American Bistro & Bar** (22
 Concord St., Manchester, 935-9740, fire-
 flynh.com) will be open for lunch from
 11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• **The Foundry Restaurant** (50 Com-
 mercial St., Manchester, 836-1925,
 foundrynh.com) will be open from 4 to 8
 p.m., with its regular dinner menu.



• **Fratello's Italian Grille** (155 Dow
 St., Manchester, 624-2022; 194 Main St.,
 Nashua, 889-2022; fratellos.com) will be
 open from 11:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., serving
 lunch and dinner.

• **Gauchos Churrascaria Brazilian
 Steak House** (62 Lowell St., Manchester,
 669-9460, gauchosbraziliansteakhouse.
 com) will be open from 11:30 a.m. to 9
 p.m., serving lunch and dinner.

• **Granite Restaurant & Bar** (96
 Pleasant St., Concord, 227-9005, gran-
 iterestaurant.com) will be open for dinner
 from 5 to 8 p.m.

• **Hanover Street Chophouse** (149
 Hanover St., Manchester, 644-2467,
 hanoverstreetchophouse.com) will be open
 from noon to 4 p.m., with its regular din-
 ner menu.

• **Hart's Turkey Farm** (233 Daniel
 Webster Hwy., Meredith, 279-6212, hart-
 sturkeyfarm.com) will be open from 11
 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• **The Homestead Restaurant** (641
 Daniel Webster Highway, Merrimack, 429-
 2022, homesteadnh.com) will be open
 from 11:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., serving lunch
 and dinner.

• **Lakehouse Grille** (281 Daniel Webster
 Highway, Meredith, 279-5221, thecman.
 com) will serve lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 3
 p.m., and dinner from 5 to 9 p.m.

• **The Local Moose Cafe** (124 Queen
 City Ave., Manchester, 232-2669, thelo-
 calmoosecafe.com) will be open from 8
 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

• **Martha's Exchange** (185 Main St.,
 Nashua, 883-8781, marthas-exchange.
 com) will be open during its regular hours,
 from 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.

• **Murphy's Diner** (516 Elm St., Man-
 chester 792-4004. murphysdiner.com) will
 be open from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m.

• **Murphy's Taproom** (494 Elm St.,
 Manchester, 644-3535, murphystaproom.
 net) will be open from 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.

• **O Steaks & Seafood** (11 S. Main St., Concord, 856-7925; 62 Doris Ray Court, Laconia, 524-9373, magicfoodsrestaurantgroup.com/osteaks) will be open and taking reservations until 8 p.m.

• **Red Arrow Diner** (61 Lowell St., Manchester, 626-1118; 63 Union Square, Milford, 249-9222; 137 Rockingham Road, Londonderry, 552-3091, redarrowdiner.com) is open for breakfast, lunch, dinner and dessert 24 hours a day year round, including Christmas Eve.

• **The Red Blazer Restaurant and Pub** (72 Manchester St., Concord, 224-4101, theredblazer.com) will be open from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m., serving lunch and dinner.

• **Republic Cafe & Bistro** (1069 Elm St., Manchester, 666-3723, republiccafe.com) will be open for breakfast and lunch from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

• **Restaurant Tek-Nique** (170 Route 101, Bedford, 488-5629, restauranttek-nique.com) will be open for dinner from 4 to 9:30 p.m.

• **Route 104 Diner** (752 Route 104, New Hampton, 744-0120, thecman.com) will be open from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m., serving breakfast and lunch.

• **T-Bones Great American Eatery** (77 Lowell Road, Hudson, 882-6677; 25 S. River Road, Bedford, 641-6100; 39 Crystal Ave., Derry, 434-3200; 311 S. Broadway, Salem, 893-3444; 1182 Union Ave., Laconia, 528-7800, t-bones.com) will be open from 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. (Bedford location will open at 11 a.m.).

• **Tilt'n Diner** (61 Laconia Road, Tilton, 286-2204, thecman.com) will be open

from 6 a.m. to 3 p.m., serving breakfast and lunch.

• **The Wild Rover** (21 Kosciuszko St., Manchester, 669-7722, wildroverpub.com) will be open during its regular hours, from 10 a.m. to 1 a.m.

• **The Windham Restaurant** (59 Range Road, Windham, 870-9270, windham-restaurant.com) will open at 3 p.m., with seatings until 8 p.m., serving its regular menu and a Christmas Eve specials menu.

Open Christmas Day

• **Epoch Restaurant & Bar** (The Exeter Inn, 90 Front St., Exeter, 778-3762, epoch-restaurant.com) will be open with a limited bar menu from 5 to 8 p.m.

• **Gauchos Churrascaria Brazilian Steak House** (62 Lowell St., Manchester, 669-9460, gauchosbraziliansteakhouse.com) will be open for breakfast and a brunch buffet (\$17.95) from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., lunch from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., and dinner from 3:30 to 7 p.m.

• **The Lobby Bar at The Grand** (Bedford Village Inn, 2 Olde Bedford Way, Bedford, 472-2001, bedfordvillageinn.com) will be open from noon to 9 p.m.

• **Murphy's Taproom** (494 Elm St., Manchester, 644-3535, murphystaproom.net) will be open from 4 p.m. to 1 a.m.

• **Red Arrow Diner** (61 Lowell St., Manchester, 626-1118; 63 Union Square, Milford, 249-9222; 137 Rockingham Road, Londonderry, 552-3091, redarrowdiner.com) is open for breakfast, lunch, dinner and dessert 24 hours a day year round, including Christmas Day.

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Food & Drink

Beer & wine making

• **GALAXY SNACK IPA** Split-a-batch brewing event with hard-to-find Galaxy Hops from Australia. Thurs., Dec. 15, 6 p.m. IncrediBREW, 112 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua. \$30 for BYO bottles, \$40 for bottles included. Call 891-2477 or visit incredibrew.com.

• **SPARKLING WINEFEST** Sparkling wine tasting and hands-on winemaking experience. Wed., Dec. 28, 6 p.m. IncrediBREW, 112 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua. \$60 per winemaker, includes six bottles. Call 891-2477 or visit incredibrew.com.

Beer, wine, liquor dinners

• **HENNIKER BREWING WING NIGHT** Pairing with five Henniker Brewing Company beers. Thurs., Dec. 15, 6 to 8 p.m. River Road Tavern, 193 S. River Road, Bedford. Visit hennikerbrewing.com.

• **CRAFT BEER DINNER** Four-course dinner paired with Rockingham Brewing Company beers. Fri., Dec. 16, 7 p.m.

Speaker's Corner, 2 Somerset Parkway, Nashua. \$65. Visit rockinghambrewing.com.

Drink events

• **HOLIDAY WINE FEST** Enjoy holiday treats and wine samples while making six bottles of wine to take home. The wine selection includes several award-winning varieties from the International Wine Competition. No winemaking experience is necessary to participate. Thurs., Dec. 15, 6 p.m. IncrediBREW, 112 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua. Registration is required. Call 891-2477 or visit incredibrew.com.

• **PROST TWO-YEAR ANNIVERSARY** Celebrate Prost's two-year anniversary with samples and swag from Allagash Brewing Company and a release of several cases of beer that have been aging for a year or more. Fri., Dec. 16, 5 to 7 p.m. Prost, 44 Lafayette Road, North Hampton. Visit prostcraftbeer.com.

• **SMUTTYNOSE CREW VISIT** Join Cask & Vine for the final week of its Smuttynose month-long takeover with

a 3-year vertical of S'Mistletoe. The Smuttynose crew including Liz, J.T. and founder and owner Peter Egelston will discuss Smuttynose, craft beer and the New Hampshire beer scene. Tues., Dec. 20, 6 to 8 p.m. Cask & Vine, 1 E. Broadway, Derry. Visit facebook.com/CaskandVine.

• **WINTER SOLSTICE CELEBRATION** Ring in the Yule times with themed beer, cocktails, and food. Wed., Dec. 21, 6 to 10 p.m. Earth Eagle Brewings, 165 High St., Portsmouth. Visit facebook.com/earthaglebrewings.

• **NEW YEAR'S EVE AT CASK & VINE** Stop by to celebrate the new year, watch the ball drop and enjoy beer and wine selections and a special food menu. Sat., Dec. 31, 5 p.m. to 1 a.m. Cask & Vine, 1 E. Broadway, Derry. Visit facebook.com/CaskandVine.

• **NEW YEAR'S EVE AT EARTH EAGLE BREWINGS** New England's only absinthe-themed New Year's Eve celebration featuring a fountain, absinthe mixed drinks, special nosh and music

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IN THE KITCHEN

WITH SAM BREST

Before he became a coffee roastmaster, Sam Brest owned a sub shop in Nashua. One day while visiting a coffee shop in Portland, Maine, he noticed a roaster in the back room where the shop roasted its own coffee. "I had never heard of such a thing. I found it very interesting, so that's when I started researching it," he said. He attended a coffee roasting course in Idaho and bought a small roaster to use at his sub shop. In 2003 he opened King David Coffee Roasters (48 Bridge St., 2nd floor, Nashua, 577-8899, kingdavidcoffee.com), and he sold the sub shop a few years later. Brest hand-roasts small batches of specialty coffees with beans from all over the world as well as a line of maple and other flavored coffees called Cohas Coffee Co. His products can be ordered and shipped or picked up at the roastery at a scheduled time.



What is your must-have coffee roasting tool or piece of equipment?

Well, it would have to be the roaster. There's also the grinder and the heat sealer for the bags and the label printer to print my labels, and those are all must-have pieces of equipment, but I'd have to say the roaster first.

What is your favorite local eatery?

Probably YouYou, a Japanese restaurant in Nashua. The chicken pad thai is probably my favorite.

What would you choose for your last meal?

I was at the Native American museum in Washington, D.C., and in the basement they have a restaurant where I had the best burger of my life. It was some combination of buffalo or bison and duck, and I've never had anything like it since. ... So I'd say maybe some kind of amazing hamburger like that.

— Angie Sykeny

What is the most unique coffee you've ever roasted?

I don't have it anymore, but Jamaican Blue Mountain ... is extremely high-quality and has a unique taste to it with berry notes. The flavor profile from that part of the world, the Caribbean, is very different from the Americas or Africa.

How do you like to drink your coffee?

I prefer the lighter roasts. ... There is more flavor in a light roast than in a dark roast. It's not as strong of a coffee flavor, but there are more citrus notes and other flavors that you can detect. And, of course, I drink it black.

What is your favorite coffee that you roast?

The Peru. It's got a nice tang to it with citrus and floral flavors. It has a freshness that's very light on the palate.

What celebrity would you like to get a coffee with?

Mel Brooks. I love his movies.

Homemade kettle corn

From the kitchen of Sam Brest

- 4 ounces of popcorn
- Canola oil
- ½ ounce of sugar
- Sea salt

Measure the popcorn into a Whirley Pop or similar popper (not a hot air popper). Preheat enough canola oil to cover the bottom of the popper. Add the sugar in with the popcorn and pop until it's done. Sprinkle with sea salt.

Clarification

In the Dec. 8 Hippo, "In the Kitchen" noted that the restaurant CR Sparks was permanently closed. While CR Sparks, which was located in Bedford, closed in 2010, the restaurant's owner Chuck Rolecek opened another restaurant with a similar name, CR's The Restaurant, in Hampton in 2014, which is still in operation.

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FOOD

Snowy samples

Concord Co-op hosts free holiday tasting



Concord Food Co-op Snowflake Social. Courtesy photo.

By Angie Sykeny
asykeny@hippopress.com

Find the perfect food and drinks to serve at your holiday party and taste them yourself at the Concord Food Co-op's annual Snowflake Social happening Thursday, Dec. 15, from 4 to 6 p.m. Each Co-op food department as well as several outside vendors will be serving free samples of a variety of seasonal products.

"It's actually one of our premier events that we do every year," said Paige Charland, the event organizer and Co-op marketing specialist. "There's a holiday mood in the air, and we like to carry that into the store with festive dinners and desserts and seasonal samples."

Tasting tables will be set up throughout the store. Stop by the bakery to sample the cheesecake of the month — eggnog — which is available for purchase as a whole cake or individual slices. The bulk department will be serving up sweet snacks like chocolate popcorn, peppermint bark and Marich chocolates. In produce, try a colorful salad topped with lemon and orange wedges and pistachios, or recharge with a chocolate protein drink made with peppermint essential oil, available in the health and beauty department along with free packets of

the drink to take home. There will also be a hot bar where you can sample or buy a holiday meal; the bar will feature spiral honey ham, tourtiere (a Canadian meat pie), artichoke mushroom lasagna, candied sweet potatoes and candy cane bread pudding.

"The holidays can be stressful, so at the hot bar people can bring home a festive dinner for family and friends and have a relaxing evening," Charland said.

Outside vendors serving samples of their products will include Runamok Maple (maple products), Smart Chicken (natural and organic air-chilled chicken), Nuttin Ordinary (vegan cashew cheese spreads), Pulp Kitchen Juices (organic, cold-pressed juices) and others to be announced. There will also be a cheese and cracker platter and seasonal beer

and wine samples, including the Co-op's wine of the month, Canaletto.

Charland said most of the featured products will be available to purchase at the Co-op throughout the holiday season (and year round for some products). If you can't make the Snowflake Social, there are ongoing opportunities to sample new products and meet local vendors with the Co-op's Tasty Thursdays series, held the first Thursday of every month from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

"It's basically a smaller-scale version of the Snowflake Social where people can try free samples, do some shopping and take advantage of sales," Charland said. "Sometimes people see a product and aren't sure about it, so it gives them a chance to try before they buy."

“The holidays can be stressful, so at the hot bar people can bring home a festive dinner...”

PAIGE CHARLAND

Snowflake Social

Where: Concord Food Co-op, 24 S. Main St., Concord

When: Thursday, Dec. 15, from 4 to 6 p.m.

Cost: Free admission and samples

Visit: concordfoodcoop.coop

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Weekly Dish

Continued from page 40

Richards said in a press release. "Without access to a resource like they offer, I'm not sure that building Local Basket to this level would have been possible in such a short amount of time." Local Basket's facility will be located in the Concord Center at 10 Ferry St., Suite 120A, and is projected to open in early January.

• **Christmas tea:** Don't miss the annual Mother Daughter Christmas Tea held at Speaker's Corner Restaurant (The Crowne Plaza, 2 Somerset Parkway, Nashua, speakerscornerbistro.com) on Saturday, Dec. 17, from noon to 2 p.m. Enjoy a three-course luncheon with Christmas music, a classic

story and a craft. Kids and all family members are welcome, not just mothers and daughters. The cost is \$25 for adults, \$20 for seniors and \$12 for kids. Call 595-4155 for reservations.

• **Holiday breads:** If you're looking for the perfect hostess gift to bring to a holiday party, Chez Boucher Cooking School (32 Depot Square, Hampton) is having a holiday quick breads workshop on Saturday, Dec. 17, at 9 a.m. Learn to make delicious breads in an hour or less, including beer bread, popovers and Irish soda biscuits. The cost is \$99. Call 926-2202 or visit chezboucher.com.

Orchard St., Dover. Visit doverbrickhouse.com.

• **TASTING WITH COPPER BEECH WINERY** Sample wines and meet the winemaker. Wed., Dec. 21, 3 to 5 p.m. The Steak Out, 118 Daniel Plummer Road, Goffstown. Call 622-0022.
• **PORT AND BUBBLES** Wine tasting. Wed., Dec. 28, 5 to 8 p.m. The Wine Steward, 201 Route 111, Hampstead. Visit facebook.com/lineagewine selections.

Church & charity events

• **CHURCH SUPPER** Prime rib dinner, beverages and dessert included. Sat., Dec. 17, 5 to 6 p.m. St. John the Baptist Parish, 10 School St., Suncook. \$10 per person. Visit facebook.com/SJBSuncook.
• **FREE SPAGHETTI DINNER** Features pasta, meat sauce, tossed salad, garlic bread, 50/50 and raffles. Sat., Dec. 17, 1 to 4 p.m. Concord Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 1631, 6 Court St., Concord. Donations accepted. Visit facebook.com/ConcordVeteransOfForeignWarsPost1631.
• **CHRISTMAS DINNER DANCE** Christmas dinner with all the fixing and main stream and plus square dance with rounds beginning at 7:30 p.m.

Sat., Dec. 17, 5:30 to 10 p.m. Bishop Leo E O'neil Youth Center, Manchester. \$20. Visit facebook.com/heelandtoesquare-danceclub.

• **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA** All-you-can-eat pancakes with Santa. Sun., Dec. 18, 9 to 11 a.m. Veterans Memorial Ski Area, Flaghole Road, Franklin. \$3 per person. All proceeds support the Boy Scouts of Troop 61 Franklin.

• **BERRY BRUNCH** Tickets include breakfast buffet and one mimosa or bloody mary. Non perishable food donations for New Horizons of NH and Angie's will be accepted, and all proceeds will be donated to the shelter. Sun., Dec. 18, 11 a.m. The Thirsty Moose Taphouse, 21 Congress St., Portsmouth. \$25. Visit chivenewengland.com.

• **CHRISTMAS DAY POTLUCK** Sun., Dec. 25, 5 to 8 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation, 20 Elm St., Milford. Visit uucm.org.

Classes/workshops

• **ITALIAN CHRISTMAS COOKIES** Learn to make pizzelles, pignolis and hazelnut biscotti, and leave with a dozen of each. Sun., Dec. 18, 1:30 to 4 p.m. The Culinary Playground,

16 Manning Street, Suite 105, Derry. \$60. Visit culinary-playground.com.

Fairs/festivals/expos

• **BREWERY LIGHTS** Ongoing holiday festivities at the brewery including food and drink specials, family-friendly activities, entertainment, special events and more. The brewery grounds will be decorated with thousands of lights and holiday displays. Holiday Happy Hours at The Biergarten are Wednesdays, from 3 to 5 p.m., and Thursdays, from 5 to 8 p.m. Thurs., Nov. 17, through Fri., Dec. 30; Hours are Thursday through Saturday, 4:30 to 8 p.m., and Sunday, 4:30 to 6 p.m. Anheuser-Busch Tour Center and Biergarten, 221 Daniel Webster Hwy., Merrimack. Free admission and parking. Visit brewerylights.com and budweisertours.com.
• **COOKIE SWAP** Prizes for Best Tasting and Most Festive Cookie. Five dozen cookies per person. Sat., Dec. 17, 10:30 a.m. Smyth Public Library, 55 High St., Candia. Visit smythpl.org/events.
• **GINGERBREAD HOUSE CONTEST EXHIBIT** The display includes entries made by kids, families and local businesses.

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Pork Ragu

I've been home a lot more since our move from New Hampshire and have been filling my time finding recipes for new comfort food. I especially like finding recipes for the slow cooker.

I recently found a recipe for pork ragu, but in my haste to get to the grocery store, I closed my browser and lost the recipe. I couldn't remember which site I'd gone to, my web history was deleted and nothing looked familiar.

Ultimately, I cobbled together my own recipe from several that I found online, which all varied slightly.

The main ingredients were the same: pork, rosemary, oregano, garlic, wine, salt, pepper, tomatoes, onions and carrots. But the type of wine and amount of seasoning varied. Some recipes called for chicken stock and others for olive oil. Despite a few missteps, the result was a beautiful love letter to pork and pasta, two of my favorite things.

I started by chopping the carrots, onion and garlic. I tossed that in the bottom of my slow cooker with wine and chicken stock. I seasoned my pork with healthy amounts of salt, pepper, oregano and rosemary. Then I added a can of whole tomatoes, stirred it all together and walked away.

A few hours later I checked on its progress and found a soupy mess.

The pork was nearly done — well ahead of the recommended cook time in most recipes — and there was little flavor. I decided to experiment before giving up on the dish completely. I added flour to thicken



en the broth, more salt to bring out the flavors, sugar for some depth and a lot of Parmesan cheese for good measure.

I think the Parmesan really tipped the recipe over the edge. As the ragu thickened, I shredded the pork and added seasoning. Most of the recipes called for pork shoulder and a few pork loin. I used a pork roast and the meat was finished, after cooking on low, in only four hours. It shredded easily and was the perfect base for this simple ragu.

After I added flour, the ragu went from soup-like to sauce-like, but I'm thinking I added too much wine and chicken stock, which combined with the juices of the tomatoes to create a very thin consistency.

I needed to add heaps more seasoning than any of the recipes called for, especially of salt and pepper.

And while most recipes called for the dish to be served with grated Parmesan on top, I found adding it directly to the ragu during cooking made for a delicious treat.

— Lauren Mifsud 🍷

Pork Ragu

Recipe adapted from Real Simple and Woman's Day

- 1 large carrot, chopped
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- 2 cloves garlic, chopped
- ¼ cup dry wine
- ¼ cup chicken stock
- 2 teaspoons dried thyme
- 2 teaspoons dried oregano
- Kosher salt and black pepper
- 1 14.5-ounce can whole tomatoes
- 1½ pounds boneless pork shoulder or butt, trimmed and cut in half
- ¾ pound pasta (the wider the noodle the better)
- ¼ cup grated Parmesan, plus more for serving

In a 4- to 6-quart slow cooker, combine the carrot, onion, garlic, wine, chicken stock, thyme, oregano, 2 teaspoons salt, and 1 teaspoon pepper. Add the tomatoes (and their juices); add the pork and turn to coat. Cover and cook until the pork is very tender, on low for 7 to 8 hours or on high for 5 to 6 hours (time will vary depending on slow cooker). Twenty minutes before serving, cook the pasta according to the package directions; drain and return it to the pot. Meanwhile, using two forks, shred the pork and mix it into the cooking liquid. Stir in ¼ cup Parmesan cheese. Toss the pasta with the ragu and sprinkle with the remaining Parmesan before serving.

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DRINK

Partying with wine

What to get and how much you need

By Stefanie Phillips
food@hippopress.com

We are right in the middle of the holiday season and that typically means holiday parties and get-togethers. Wine is a staple at most of the parties I attend, because it helps people relax and can often be a conversation piece. I get asked all the time what my favorite wines are, and that is tough to answer. But I really enjoy sharing wine with family and friends and often helping them discover new wines they have never tried before.

One question that arises a lot during party planning is, how much wine do I need? What if I want to offer beer too? If you're standing in the aisle of a store and you're stuck, don't worry. Thankfully, there are some great online tools available to help.

Typically, each 750ml bottle of wine contains four glasses of wine (based on a standard pour). According to VinePair.com, the average person drinks three glasses of wine with dinner. These numbers are great, but they aren't necessarily helpful when you are looking at the overall number you need for a party.

VinePair has a tool called "The Dinner Party Wine Bottle Calculator" on its website that lets you choose the number of guests, including hosts; whether or not there will be a cocktail hour; red, white or both; and a preference on red or white for an extra bottle to have on hand. For example, for a party with six people, with no cocktail hour, with an even split of red and white and an extra bottle of red, VinePair suggests four bottles of red and two bottles of white. Using these same selections but with a cocktail hour, VinePair suggests two bottles of sparkling wine for the cocktail hour in addition to the other bottles. This is based on one glass of sparkling wine per person during the cocktail hour.

Total Wine.com has a Drink Calculator tool that will help you determine the amount of wine, beer and spirits you'd need. For example, for a party with six guests lasting three hours where wine, beer and spirits are served, Total Wine suggests three 750ml bottles of wine, eight 12-ounce beers and one 750ml bottle of spirits. Then it would be up to you to determine what kind of wine, beer and spirits to serve.

After looking at a few of these tools, the safest bet is one bottle of wine per person. However, that is based on the "average" wine drinker, and I know I have some more enthusiastic wine drinkers in my family and friend group. So if I were planning a gathering based on those numbers, I would make



sure I had some extra bottles on hand just in case. The nice thing about wine is that it does not go bad; it can be stored in the wine rack until it is time to drink it.

Of course, when you are serving wine, beer and other spirits, it is best to offer snacks to go along with them. Depending on the style of the party (appetizers versus a sit-down dinner), you could put out grapes, cheese, crackers, olives, nuts, and anything else your guests may like. I have heard that olives are a good choice while drinking but I am not sure if that has been scientifically proven. It is also a good idea to offer some non-alcoholic beverage options as well, like soda, seltzer and water.

IncrediBREW Sparkling Wine Fest

On Wednesday, Dec. 28, at 6 p.m., IncrediBREW is hosting a Sparkling Wine Fest, which includes winemaking and tasting. Guests can participate in a wine tasting, be part of a hands-on winemaking experience and be able to take home six bottles at the end of the event. You do not need to have winemaking experience to attend. According to the IncrediBREW website, flavors will include Kiwi-Pear Sauvignon Blanc, Acai Raspberry, Peach Perfection, Pomegranate Zinfandel, White Cranberry Pinot Grigio and Green Apple Riesling. Anyone interested in attending should register in advance. More information, including a split-a-batch request form, is available online at incredibrew.com.

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- To let us know about your book or event, e-mail Kelly Sennott at ksennot@hippopress.com. To get author events, library events and more listed, send information to listings@hippopress.com.

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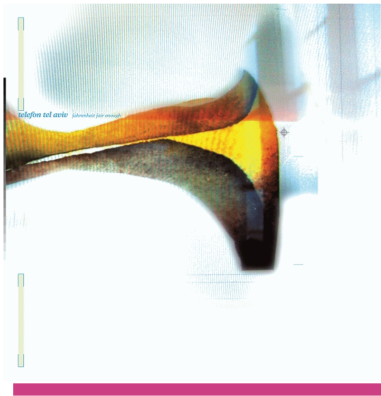
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Telefon Tel Aviv, *Fahrenheit Fair Enough* (Ghostly International Records)



Reissue of the New Orleans techno duo's 2001 debut LP, which was one of many attempts during that period to blend hip-hop, soul and techno. Later, the pair drew more and more of their style from R&B, thus this is a standalone of sorts, experimentalism with no established set of guidelines. "Reak What" begins these proceedings on a Warp Records tip, robotic synth micro-bursts tinkling over faraway unintelligible soul singing, essentially *Wall-E* makeout music, at least of a sort that'd be imagined by Aphex Twin, one of the guys' influences. The title track takes things a lot further, tabling a melodically pretty IDM idea, adding grandfather-clock-style clicking to it and piling on the glitch, quite a bit like early drum and bass when you get down to it. "Ttv" is more lush, reminiscent of Higher Intelligence Agency's more complicated effusions, or Tangerine Dream's lighter moments, take your pick. With the passing of one of the principals, Charles Cooper, in 2009, this stands as a reminder of one path that was explored and, unfortunately, underappreciated. **A** — *Eric W. Saeger*

Mark Sultan, *Mark Sultan* (In the Red Records)



Every gang of rock-band hanger-on heathens has one loose cannon who could be this guy, a one-man demolition crew blessed with a boisterous voice made for belting out locker-room sentiments, a talent so pure that it never reaches its real earnings potential only because it was already perfectly filthy from birth. This Montreal garage fixture has collaborated with Black Lips, released albums on seminal imprints like Bonk, Vice and Fat Possum and has gone by about 90 different names, including BBQ, all of which spells a rare form of bohemian ADD which, doctors warn, may result in waking up in dumpsters, not that that isn't chic. I know: What does all this mean, what does this sound like? Well, a one-man New York Dolls mayhaps, or a subway busker nailing early Rolling Stones, you know, the perfect organism: boneheaded guitar, a tambourine bouncing from somewhere or other, and the slightly strangled bleatings of a maniac in need of a sandwich. Rawer than an albino's sunburn, Sultan pushes his awful, wonderful slop in our direction, daring us to dip a finger and taste-test it. You should. **A+** — *Eric W. Saeger*

PLAYLIST

A seriously abridged compendium of recent and future CD releases

• One early Christmas present I always get every year around this time is an empty queue of new releases to talk about in this space, and I always end up pouring a scotch and making a fool of myself, posting pasta recipes or insulting some poor stray metal album that didn't know it was too late for them to come out for Christmas, which is so très pathetic. But not this year! Nope, it's lucky the Matrix has convinced you kids that a 1980s revival is a great idea, as **Blondie** is re-releasing all their old albums on Dec. 16. We can talk about that, I guess. Yes, it's all their old stuff: *Parallel Lines*, *Eat to the Beat*, *Autoamerican* and, of course, *Plastic Letters*, which many critics say is their best, mainly because nobody knows any of the songs off that album except for critics, which makes critics think they're important. See, a music critic's job is trying to make all you nice normal people say things like "Who? What is he even talking about? Is that a band, a genre, or some stupid foreign soup dish?" I used to be like that, I'll admit it, but now, after years of torturing myself with awful music, I've forgotten a lot of the references and bands I used to use as literary decoys to confuse people with. Why, just the other week I had to crawl blindly like a moron through Google for five minutes because I forgot Yo La Tengo's name. And voila, I've made that annual fool of myself! Holiday traditions, Merry Kwanzaa everyone!

• Here we go, Atlanta rapper **Gucci Mane** is perfect for this week's column, as he's almost as big a fool as I am. After insulting basically every rapper on Earth in various Twitter binges, he got arrested and went to prison for three years. Face it, he's got me beat, so he definitely deserves to have me mention *The Return of East Atlanta Santa*, his third LP/mixtape/whatever of 2016. There's no music to review as of this writing, but there are plenty of pictures on the internet of his "diamond"-encrusted Santa Claus brooch and him in his underwear. We can move on from here now.

• Next we have **Omar Rodríguez-López**, what the gosh-darn funky heck is an Omar Rodríguez-López? Oh, the guitarist from Mars Volta. What's that, you ask? No, absolutely, don't expect me to know the names of people who play in third-gen depleted-soil prog-rock bands that just make bands like ELP and Kansas laugh their dentures off. Whatever, who cares, this Napoleon Dynamite-looking dude has gone solo, and his new album, *Some Need It Lonely*, is heading to the stores in trucks, or at least Uber-rented Mini Coopers. There's nothing in particular that I can preview for you at this writing, but whatever, because this guy has put out like 92 albums already this year. Seriously, this will be his 39th solo album. A random sampling of past "efforts" includes basic suckage and lofty highbrow suckage, like an elevator-music version of Mars Volta. Yes, I'm barfing right now.

• Last we have a metal band, **The Funeral Portrait**, which will release *A Moment of Silence* in a few days unless Satan tells them not to. Preview track "The Water Obeyed the Gravity" sounds like a cross between Avenged Sevenfold and Rush. And not in a good way. Not that "a good way" would be possible. — *Eric W. Saeger*

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Family silences

Concord's Paul Levy on *Finding Phil*

By Kelly Sennott
ksennott@hippopress.com

In 1987, Concord resident Paul Levy received a package that held his Uncle Phil Levy's World War II Purple Heart medal and the 96-page journal he'd kept during World War II before he died.

Levy didn't know the sender — Marjorie Cohn, the sister of his uncle's wife, Barbara Fischback, who had recently died — but she told him in a note Barbara wanted him to have these items. He felt surprised and intrigued; he hadn't known the medal or diary existed. But he didn't have time to learn more about them just then.

"I was in the middle of life. I had a lot of stuff going on — my kids, my career," Levy said during an interview at Springfield College in Manchester, where he used to teach. "I thought this was really interesting stuff. But I just set it on a shelf and said to myself, maybe someday I'll learn a little bit about my uncle."

Someday came in 2011. By that point, Levy had retired from law and from teaching, and while he didn't expect to find much, he hoped to learn more about his mysterious uncle, who died in France Jan. 7, 1945, at age 22, months before the war's end. Levy had some details — like the name of his best friend at college (Mark Van Aken), and that he played the drums and attended the University of Michigan — but not much else.

"I literally knew nothing about him. My family had been silent. That's how they dealt with their grief, and I think that's what a lot of families did," Levy said. "My research worked this way: I'd ask a question, and then I'd try to go find an answer. What did Phil do in his youth? How did he meet Barbara? I knew Phil had died somewhere in France. I wanted to know where."

He sent out requests for military records (it would be three months before he'd receive them) and began following troop movements in 1944 and 1945. He checked into veterans and World War II networks and extracted information from the few people left who knew Phil Levy. He started with his aunt, Phyllis Jean Brown, but didn't learn very much from her.

"[The silence] had a real interesting effect on her. She couldn't remember much of her brother," Levy said. "I found that pattern all over the place, with people who lost a kid in the war, and also with soldiers who came

back. They didn't talk about it. They moved on with their lives as best they could. Maybe they did talk later in their lives, when they got into their 80s. ... But there was a lot of silence."

However, Levy was able to find some people who could talk about his uncle. He tracked down one of the soldiers who fought alongside Phil Levy, Jack Delmonte, who was in his 90s and living in Long Island.

"When I called him out of the blue, I said who I was and that I wasn't sure if he would know Phil or not. He said, 'Of

course I remember Phil! And wasn't his wife named Barbara?'" Levy said.

Eventually, Levy found answers — lots of answers, in old records, books, newspaper articles and interviews, and he chronicled them in a self-published book, which he printed 50 copies of and shared with family and friends a few years after beginning his research.

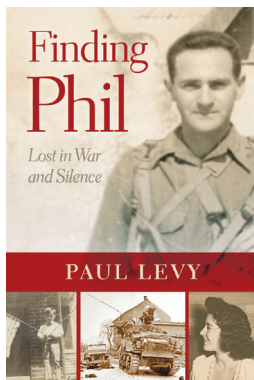
Levy learned his uncle studied French and Italian in school and served as a translator in the war. He learned Phil Levy was part of Operation Dragoon, which was a counterpart to D-Day in Normandy, and that his uncle was at the front of the 191st Tank Battalion, and thus one of the first American soldiers to cross over into Germany. Levy learned the exact spot his uncle was killed, and he learned the name of the man who did it.

About a year ago, Levy pitched the story to Bauhan Publishing, who took on the project and released *Finding Phil: Lost in War and Silence* July 2016. Levy describes the book as a mystery, love story and reflection — on heroism, family silences and military history. The process has inspired his wife, Elizabeth Levy, to look into her own family history.

"In some cases, the book is about encouraging people to go out and explore. If you have any interest in learning about World War II, do it now. If somebody is still alive, definitely try to talk with them. Some vets still aren't talking, but many are," Levy said. "My generation never knew Phil. We didn't miss him because he wasn't a real person, and we didn't know what we were missing. So for my family, it's really been a chance to get to know somebody."

Finding Phil: Lost in War and Silence

Learn more about the book at bauhanpublishing.com.



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POP CULTURE BOOKS

Hungry Heart: Adventures in Life, Love, and Writing, by Jennifer Weiner (Atria Books, 402 pages)

I've always liked New York Times Bestselling author Jennifer Weiner (*Good in Bed*, *In Her Shoes*). I haven't read all of her books, but the few I have read I've enjoyed. She's a good storyteller and an accomplished writer.

Her newest book, *Hungry Heart*, a memoir on the conflicts of being a mom, a feminist and a writer, makes me absolutely love her.

Weiner documents some painful parts of her life: her father's leaving the family, her being kicked out of school for tuition non-payment, and basically trying to get by without a penny in her pocket. The scene she describes of filling up on free food at a local bar's happy hour in order to hold off hunger until the next morning is heartbreaking.

But she perseveres, and she does it with grace and style. Many of the essays in *Hungry Heart* are laugh-out-loud funny while pulling at the heart. This is definitely a woman who knows how to write.

Weiner gets a college education from Princeton with mostly A's on her transcript, but her insecurities never leave her. Many women will be able to identify with her deep-rooted feelings of "I'm not good enough, smart enough, or even that old-time favorite — thin enough." Weiner is a larger woman, not huge, but not tiny — a decided disadvantage in our current culture, especially when you are in the public arena.

Somehow she manages to calm her fears enough to write a book that gets published. Her life takes off.

She becomes a full-time writer. She becomes accomplished. Respected.

Then Weiner tries her hand at being a mother. Nothing makes you re-examine your youth and put a microscope to what you had previously thought were truths more than that. It's the journey most adults end up taking, but Weiner gives exquisite voice to it. Turns out our parents are very complex people. Who knew?

You move on. You grow.

Weiner also discovers just how difficult it is to combine birth, breastfeeding and taking care of children with a full-time job. Even when you have a deadline the kids come first, their needs over yours. Becoming a parent has a way of humbling even the most selfish and independent person.

Then as a feminist and not understanding the soul-sucking power of social media, she discovers that a public comment means you are publically attacked. When Weiner speaks out about the gen-



der bias in the world of publication, she is pummeled. Just who does she think she is? This lady only writes women's stories; her work doesn't even count!

Turns out that it does. The fact that you write women's fiction does not mean that your work isn't good. It fills a need for female readers, just as Westerns and crime novels fill a need for male readers.

The result of her life experiences combined is that Weiner is an accomplished, bestselling author who has found her voice both inside and outside of her books.

Is she angry at injustice? Absolutely.

Does she mouth off and say what's on her mind? You betcha.

Does she make us squirm with her "slap you in the face" honesty? Yup.

What that does is makes her a messy, authentic human being, someone to admire and respect. She challenges her own beliefs while she challenges ours. From a writer's perspective, mission accomplished. It doesn't get much better than that.

Hungry Heart is a bitterly honest account of a woman trying to make it in the world while at the same time trying to figure out what the rules are. It's compelling, heartbreaking, funny and inspiring. You need not to have read any of her previous books to enjoy it.

This book will make you reflect, it will make you cheer and it will make you question why society treats outspoken women the way it does. Weiner's unflinching account will give you pause to reflect on your own demons, and, ultimately, it will make you realize that if she can do it, so can you. A

— Wendy E.N. Thomas

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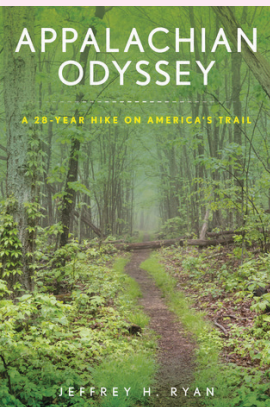
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Book Report



• **28-year journey:** Jeffrey Ryan — author, speaker, photographer, hiker and former catalog writer at L.L. Bean — stops at the Toadstool Bookshop, 614 Nashua St., Milford, Sunday, Dec. 18, at 2 p.m., to talk about and sign copies of his book, *Appalachian Odyssey: A 28-year Hike on America's Trail*. The memoir chronicles his trek

and the lessons he learned throughout the journey; it's loosely modeled on Chaucer's *Canterbury Tales*, with each section positioned as a self-contained story. Visit jeffryauthor.com.

• **Tasty read:** Author Evan Mallett shares his book, *Black Trumpet: A Chef's Journey Through Eight New England Seasons*, on Sunday, Dec. 18, at 2 p.m., at Barnes & Noble, 45 Gosling Road, Newington. The book contains more than 250 recipes that make up most of New England's offerings, according to its description, including chestnut butter, fig jam finger sandwiches and pork schnitzel with pretzel spätzle. Visit barnesandnoble.com.

• **Classes are up:** The New Hampshire Institute of Art has loads of fine art community education adult classes, but it also offers a few writing classes this upcoming winter semester. The ones on the Manchester campus (148 Concord St., Manchester) include Intro to Writing Creatively (\$149, Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., March 25 through April 29), Creative Writing II (\$289, Tuesdays from 6 to 9 p.m., Feb. 7 through April 25) and Discovering Voice Through Poetry (Mondays from 6 to 9 p.m., March 20 through April 24). Visit nhia.edu/CE or call 836-2564.

— Kelly Sennott

Books

Author Events

• **BILL SANDERSON** Former NH reporter talks about new book, *Bulletins From Dallas: Reporting the JFK Assassination*. Tues., Dec. 13, at 7 p.m. Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications, 749 E. Industrial Park Drive, Manchester. Free. Call 627-0005 or visit loeb-school.org.

• **MYKL WALSH** Author talks about *Journey*. Fri., Dec. 16, at noon. Barnes & Noble, 125 S. Broadway, Route 28, Salem. Call 898-1930.

• **HOWARD MANSFIELD** Author talks about *Sheds*. Sat., Dec. 17, at 3 p.m. Toadstool Bookshop, 614 Nashua St., Milford.

• **RAY ANDERSON** Author talks about *The Trail* and *Sierra*. Sat., Dec. 17, at noon. Barnes & Noble, 125 S. Broadway, Salem. Call 898-1930.

• **LYNN PLOURDE, RUSS COX, TERI WEIDNER** Children's authors sign books, read stories and support William Fogg library. Sat., Dec. 17, at 10 a.m. Barnes & Noble, 45 Gosling Road, Newington. Call 422-7733.

• **MARTY KELLEY** Author signs *Santa's Underwear*. Sat., Dec. 17, at 10 a.m. Barnes & Noble, 45 Gosling Road, Newington. Call 422-7733.

• **REBECCA RULE** Author signs *N is for New Hampshire*. Water Street Bookstore, 125 Water St., Exeter. Sat., Dec. 17, noon-2 p.m. Call 778-9731.

• **JEFFREY RYAN** Author talks about *Appalachian Odyssey: A 28-Year Hike on America's Trail*. Sun., Dec. 18, 2-5 p.m. Toadstool Bookshop, 614 Nashua St., Milford.

• **TOM COSTA** Author talks about *Magic of Light*. Sun., Dec. 18, at noon. Barnes & Noble,

125 S. Broadway, Salem. Call 898-1930.

• **EVAN MALLET** Author signs *The Black Trumpet: A Chef's Journey Through Eight New England Seasons*. Sun., Dec. 18, at 2 p.m. Fox Run Crossings, 45 Gosling St., Newington. Call 422-7733.

• **KAREL HAYES** Author signs *Santa's Tatty Old Boots*. Sun., Dec. 18, at 1 p.m. Fox Run Crossings, 45 Gosling St., Newington. Call 422-7733.

• **CHARD DENIORD, ROBIN MACARTHUR** Writers talk about *Interstate* and *The Double Truth*. Fri., Jan. 6, at 5:30 p.m. Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com.

• **KATRINA KENISON** Author talks about *Moments of Seeing: Reflections from an Ordinary Life*. Sat., Jan. 7, at 4 p.m. Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord.

• **AERUM DELEVAN** Author talks about *Demon Chronicles: The Chaos Prophecy!* Thurs., Jan. 12, at 5:30 p.m. Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com.

• **ZOIE V. LITTLE** Author talks about *Black, White, or Other*. Sun., Jan. 15, at 2 p.m. Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com.

• **MARINA DUTZMANN KIRSCH** Author of *Flight of Remembrance: A World War II Memoir of Love and Survival*. Sun., Jan. 15, at 2 p.m. Nashua Public Library, 2 Court St., Nashua. Visit nashualibrary.org. Call 589-4610.

• **REV. MARY FRANCIS DRAKE** Afternoon of poetry and faith. Sat., Jan. 21, at 2 p.m. Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com/event/know-is-true.

• **JAMES ROLLINS** Author talks about *Seventh Plague*. Thurs., Jan. 26, at 7 p.m. Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord. Visit gibsonsbookstore.com. Call 224-0562.

Poetry

• **POETRY SOCIETY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE** Reading, plus open mike. Wed., Jan. 18, at 7 p.m. Gibson's Bookstore, 45 S. Main St., Concord. Visit poetry-societyofnewhampshire.org.

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Manchester by the Sea (R)
A man just scraping by in life must decide whether he can take on the responsibility of caring for his brother's son in *Manchester by the Sea*, a new film from writer-director Kenneth Lonergan who is probably still best-known for his excellent *You Can Count On Me* from 2000.

Lee Chandler (Casey Affleck) is a super at four Boston-area buildings in exchange for lousy pay and free rent in a basement apartment. During the work day he is capable but frequently complained about for his general lack of civility. At night, his hobbies appear to be drinking alone and getting in bar fights.

But then he gets a call. His beloved brother Joe Chandler (Kyle Chandler) has died after years of managing a heart condition. Lee heads back to Manchester-by-the-Sea, the Massachusetts town they once both lived in, to plan Joe's funeral and take care of single father Joe's teenage son Patrick (Lucas Hedges) until more permanent arrangements are made.

As it turns out, however, Lee was Joe's permanent arrangement. He named Lee as Patrick's guardian in his will and planned his finances so that Lee could move to Manchester and see Patrick through to his graduation. Lee wants no such responsibility and Patrick has no interest in moving to Boston and leaving his full life of friends, hockey, a garage band and two girlfriends.

And let's pause right here to say that this struggle — family trying to do right by family, despite limitations — is both familiar to *You Can Count On Me* and extremely well-played in this movie. Joe wasn't perfect, he had difficulties and he was perhaps more optimistic than responsible when he named Lee as Patrick's guardian. The way the movie shows us, in flashback, these two men's relationship feels honest and realistic. I also believed the relationship between Lee and Patrick. Lee was, as he explains at one point, only the backup, returning to Manchester whenever Joe needed help. But Patrick is also fiercely determined to keep his life in Manchester and the death of his father has left him as much confused as sad.

Here's the part where I say SPOILER ALERT. I recommend this movie and if you want to know nothing more about it, just see it and stop reading here.



Manchester by the Sea

The reason Lee doesn't want to move back to Manchester is explained at roughly the same time we find out that Joe's hope was that he would. The movie does an excellent job showing the effects of what happened, showing how Lee carries what happened with him always. It is seldom directly talked about but it is part of nearly every interaction he has. Affleck perfectly delivers exactly how broken, as a character later calls him, he really is, even in moments of temporary happiness.

Michelle Williams also appears, playing a character from Lee's past. She has only a few scenes — some flashbacks, and a few in the present day — but she builds a whole person from what she's given. What's most interesting perhaps about her character is that we don't see the one scene we kind of expect as part of her arc. We don't see it and yet still we're able to picture it from her reference to it.

Manchester by the Sea is probably not going to be my pick for a lazy Sunday movie but it is marvelously well-assembled, with a story that balances truly sad and even horrible events with gentleness, rawness and even a bit of humor. Some of the best performances are from supporting characters such as George (C.J. Wilson), a longtime Chandler family friend, and Patrick's awkward collection of friends and girlfriends. A sad and lovely movie, *Manchester by the Sea* is well worth seeing, even if just once. **A**

Rated R for language throughout and some sexual content. Written and directed by Ken-

neth Lonergan, Manchester by the Sea is two hours and 17 minutes long and distributed by Roadside Attractions and Amazon Studios.

Office Christmas Party (R)
One booze-soaked rager might save the company in *Office Christmas Party*, a low-effort R-rated comedy.

Twas some undefined number of days before Christmas and all through the office, Zenotek CEO Carol (Jennifer Aniston) was threatening to ax jobs (plus Christmas bonuses and the Christmas party) at the Chicago branch run by her brother Clay (T.J. Miller). Though a half-percent miss in the company's growth goals might not seem like a good excuse for laying off 40 percent of the office, tightly wound, ever-responsible Carol doesn't like the hard-partying Clay or the way their father always favored him.

Carol offers one glimmer of hope: If the branch can land a much-chased client, the party and bonuses will stay canceled but people can keep their jobs. Thus does Clay get Josh (Jason Bateman), his right-hand man who really runs the branch, and Tracey (Olivia Munn), the person who (as she tells Carol) has her name on all the company's patents for the last few years, to scramble to try to get Walter Davis (Courtney B. Vance), representative of the big prospective client, to pick Zenotek for his company's IT needs. But, grumpy from his shabby treatment by his own company's tight-fisted corporate culture, Walter passes.

Clay decides what Walter needs — and

what will get him to change his mind about Zenotek — is an old-school, honest to naughtiness office Christmas party. Not the muted wine-and-cheese cocktail hour planned by HR head Mary (Kate McKinnon). Not the sad holiday brunch Josh saw at another office — non-alcoholic mimosas, please only take one. But a loud, inappropriate-behavior-filled party complete with an eggnog luge and a reminder (unheeded) to keep the hookups off company property.

A few thoughts, in no particular order, I had while watching this movie:

- Middle-aged-people cutting loose at an epic office party feels like one of those things that sounds wild and zany in principle but probably would be terrible and awkward in reality.
- A little T.J. Miller goes a long way and yet this movie was able to use its rather large helping of T.J. Miller smartly.
- Kate McKinnon is a national treasure. But...

• Kate McKinnon needs to be careful about always being “the Kate McKinnon character.” Her Mary, with her combination of strange twitches and schoolmarmish adherence to the rules, feels a bit like a mashup of her *Ghostbusters* character and her Hillary Clinton impersonation. She is great and clearly game when it comes to comedy — physical, goofy, quirky — but that can lead to being stuck in the sidekick role as the character just there for the comic relief.

• Jennifer Aniston isn't doing anything particularly new in this movie but I think I really like take-charge Jennifer Aniston. It's sort of similar to the Sandra Bullock character in *The Proposal* but with an entertainingly pettier edge.

• Sometimes, despite the availability of great film, what you really need is an OK film. In this season of Great and Important Film, a sloppy comedy with a familiar plot and characters, a middling quality of humor and the occasional genuine chuckle around the edges can feel comfy like a glass of red wine and a *Law & Order*. **B-**

Rated R for crude sexual content and language throughout, drug use and graphic nudity. Directed by Josh Gordon and Will Speck with a screenplay by Justin Malen & Laura Solon & Dan Mazer, Office Christmas Party is an hour and 45 minutes long and distributed by Paramount Pictures. 🍷

AT THE MULTIPLEX			
Reviewslets			
* Indicates movies worth seeing. Find reviews of many of the films listed here at hipopress.com.			
Coming soon Opens Dec. 16: <i>Rogue One: A Star Wars Story</i> (PG-13) Will the force be strong with this side-sequel to the	In theaters now: *Arrival (PG-13) Amy Adams, Jeremy Renner. This chilly, fun, smart sci-fi appears to be one thing	original <i>Star Wars</i> story?; <i>Collateral Beauty</i> (PG-13) A man dealing with the loss of a child attempts to grapple with life.	about 80 percent of the way though and turns into something else in its final act — both things are well-acted and engrossing. B+
		*The Edge of Seventeen (R) Hailee Steinfeld, Woody Harrelson. So realistically awkward are the teenagers in this mov-	ie that I literally took my glasses off so I couldn't see the screen as clearly during one of the more cringey scenes. And yet, this look at a teenage girl trying to find her place in her world after a falling out with her best (and only) friend is delightful. Steinfeld's reflexively snarky, overly talky Nadine
			is uncomfortably familiar but a good and honest portrait of a teenage girl. A
			*Loving (PG-13) Ruth Negga, Joel Edgerton. Mildred and Richard, the Lovings of Virginia v. Loving fame, marry and want to raise their children in their home in rural Virginia
			but the state's anti-inter-racial marriage laws make that nearly impossible. The movie shows us all of the injustice (and ridiculousness) of these laws through the eyes of these two people — all showing, no speech-filled telling required. A simple, beautiful, powerful film. A

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MOVIES OUTSIDE THE CINEPLEX

RED RIVER THEATRES

11 S. Main St., Concord, 224-4600, redrivertheatres.org
• *Loving* (PG-13, 2016) Thurs., Dec. 15, at 5:25 & 8:05 p.m.
• *Nocturnal Animals* (R, 2016) Thurs., Dec. 15, at 2:05, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Fri., Dec. 16, at 1, 3:30, 6 & 8:30 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 17, at 1, 3:30, 6 & 8:30 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 18, at 3:15 & 5:45 p.m.; Mon., Dec. 19, at 2:05, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Tues., Dec. 20, at 2:05, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Wed., Dec. 21, at 2:05, 5:30 & 8 p.m.; Thurs., Dec. 22, at 2:05, 5:30 & 8 p.m.
• *Manchester by the Sea* (R, 2016) Fri., Dec. 16, at 2, 5 & 8 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 17, at 2, 5 & 8 p.m.; Sun., Dec. 18, at 2 & 5 p.m.; Mon., Dec. 19, at 2, 5:25 & 8:05 p.m.; Tues., Dec. 20, at 2, 5:25 & 8:05 p.m.; Wed., Dec. 21, at 2, 5:25 & 8:05 p.m.; Thurs., Dec. 22, at 2, 5:25 & 8:05 p.m.
• *The Polar Express* (G, 2004) Sun., Dec. 18, at 1 p.m.

WILTON TOWN HALL

40 Main St., Wilton, 654-3456, wiltontownhalltheatre.com
• *Marguerite* (R, 2015) Thurs., Dec. 15, at 7:30 p.m.
• *Loving* (PG-13, 2016) Thurs., Dec. 15, through Thurs., Dec. 22, at 7:30 p.m. Additional screening Sun., Dec. 18, at 2 p.m.
• *Manchester by the Sea* (R, 2016) Fri., Dec. 16, through Thurs., Dec. 22, at 7:30 p.m. Additional screening Sun., Dec. 18, at 2 p.m.
• *A Christmas Story* (PG, 1983) Sat., Dec. 17, at 4:30 p.m., free admission, donations to charity
• *It's a Wonderful Life* (1947) Sun., Dec. 18, at 4:30 p.m., donations to the pantry

CAPITOL CENTER FOR THE ARTS

44 S. Main St., Concord, 225-1111, ccanh.com
• *Nabucco* (Met Live in HD) Sat., Jan. 7, at 12:55 p.m.
• *No Man's Land* (National Theatre Live rebroadcast) Tues., Jan. 10, at 6 p.m.

MANCHESTER CITY LIBRARY

405 Pine St., Manchester, 624-6550, manchester.lib.nh.us;

some films at the West Branch, 76 Main St., Manchester, 624-6560

• *Christmas With the Kranks* (PG, 2004) Wed., Dec. 21, at 1 p.m.
• *Sully* (PG-13, 2016) Thurs., Dec. 22, at 1 p.m. (West Branch)
• *The Jungle Book* (PG, 2016) Wed., Dec. 28, at 1 p.m.

BEDFORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

3 Meetinghouse Road, Bedford, 472-2300, bedfordnhlibrary.org
• *A Christmas Story* (PG, 1983) Sun., Dec. 18, at 2 p.m.
• *School Holiday Movie for Kids* Thurs., Dec. 29, at 2 p.m.

DERRY OPERA HOUSE

29 W. Broadway, Derry, derryoperahouse.com
• *The Polar Express* (G, 2004) Sat., Dec. 17, at 2 p.m., presented This is My Derry

CONCORD PUBLIC LIBRARY

45 Green St., Concord, onconcord.com/library, 225-9670, call 230-3682 for titles
• *Kids Afternoon Movie* Wed., Dec. 28, at 2 p.m.

PELHAM PUBLIC LIBRARY

24 Village Green, Pelham, pelhampubliclibrary.org, 635-7581
• *Sunday Matinee* Sun., Dec. 18, at 1:30 p.m.

HOOKESETT PUBLIC LIBRARY

31 Mount Saint Mary's Way, Hooksett, 485-6092, hooksettl-library.org
• *Lunch and a Movie* Thurs., Dec. 29, at noon (bring lunch, blanket, pillows, family-friendly film)

NASHUA PUBLIC LIBRARY

NPL Theater, 2 Court St., Nashua, 589-4611, nashualibrary.org
• *The BFG* (PG, 2016) Sat., Dec. 17, at 2 p.m.
• *10 Cloverfield Lane* (PG-13, 2016) Tues., Dec. 20, at 7 p.m.
• *Everybody Wants Some!!* (R, 2016) Tues., Dec. 27, at 7 p.m.
• *The Lego Movie* (PG, 2014) Thurs., Dec. 29, at 2 p.m.

PETERBOROUGH PLAYERS THEATER

55 Hadley Road, Peterborough, 924-9344, peterboroughplayers.org
• *The Nutcracker* (Bolshoi Ballet) Sun., Dec. 18, at 1 p.m.

PETERBOROUGH COMMUNITY THEATRE

6 School St., Peterborough, pct-movies.com
• *Loving* Dec. 9 through Dec. 22, Wed., Sat. and Sun. at 2:30 & 7 p.m., Thurs. and Fri. at 7 p.m.

THE MUSIC HALL

28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth, 436-2400, themusichall.org, Some films are screened at Music Hall Loft, 131 Congress St., Portsmouth
• *Harry & Snowman* (R, 2016) Thurs., Dec. 15, at 7 p.m.; Sat., Dec. 17, at 7 p.m.; Wed., Dec. 21, at 7 p.m.; Thurs., Dec. 22, at 7 p.m.
• *About Schmidt* (R, 2002) Tues., Dec. 27, at 7 p.m.

3S ARTSPACE

319 Vaughan St., Portsmouth, 3sarts.org
• *The General* (1926) Sat., Dec. 17, at 8 p.m., doors open at 7 p.m., silent film with musical accompaniment by Alloy Orchestra

THE FLYING MONKEY

39 S. Main St., Plymouth, 536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com
• *Denial* (PG-13, 2016) Thurs., Dec. 15, at 6:30 p.m.
• *Elf* (PG, 2003) Fri., Dec. 16, at 6:30 p.m.
• *A Man Called Ove* (PG-13, 2015) Sun., Dec. 18, at 1:30 p.m.; Mon., Dec. 19, at 6:30 p.m.; Tues., Dec. 20, at 6:30 p.m.

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By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

• **Local return:** Enjoy a rare chance to see **Josh Logan** perform a hometown show with his trio. *The Voice* Season 5 finalist stays mostly in the Midwest these days but occasionally returns for a one-off or two, including this one at what was a regular stop back in the day. Logan also has a new song on musical pal Chad LaMarsh's annual *Bundle of Books* benefit CD. See Logan on Thursday, Dec. 15, at 8 p.m., at Fody's Great American Tavern, 9 Clinton St., Nashua, fodystavern.com.

• **Holiday tunes:** Acclaimed singing group **Rockapella** is back for a holiday concert that's an area tradition now in its 11th year. Popularized on shows like NBC's *The Sing Off* and the movie *Pitch Perfect*, the five-man group is a standout example of the a cappella genre. Their unique holiday program ranges from "Angels We Have Heard on High" to "Matunda Ya Kwanzaa." Go Friday, Dec. 16, at 7 p.m. at Stockbridge Theatre, Pinkerton Academy, 5 Pinkerton St., Derry. Tickets are \$10 through \$32 at stockbridgetheatre.com.

• **New song:** Veteran regional band **The Conniption Fits** just released "Misinformed Informant," a new single with acoustic elements, shimmering harmonies and sophistication. The track, available on Soundcloud, stands up to the best stuff out there. Hear it along with a mix of rock covers and other originals at a downtown Manchester show. Go Saturday, Dec. 17, at 9 p.m. at Murphy's Taproom, 494 Elm St., Manchester. For more, go to soundcloud.com/conniptionfits.

• **Rock block:** A Sunday afternoon indoor festival features **Mindset X** in what's billed as their final appearance before a hiatus. Conversely, **A Simple Complex** continues a welcome return to the local scene after a long absence with a set of its own. The hard-rocking bill is rounded out by Lone Wolf James and Black River Union, with local artists showing their work. Go Sunday, Dec. 18, at 1 p.m. at the Jewel Music Venue, 61 Canal St., Manchester. The show is 18+, \$5 admission.

• **Big band:** Celebrate the season as **Freese Brothers Big Band** plays holiday favorites. Formed in 1982 by four siblings who began playing together in the 1930s, the band has evolved into a community effort, recruiting musicians from high school programs throughout the area and supporting a scholarship fund. Show proceeds go to furthering these efforts. Go Tuesday, Dec. 20, at 7:30 p.m. at American Legion Sweeney Post, 251 Maple St., Manchester. See freesebrothersbigband.com.

Want more ideas for a fun night out? Check out **Hippo Scout**, available via the Apple App Store, Google Play and online at hipposcout.com.

NITE

A Capitol Christmas

Four days of rock, comedy and jazz in Concord

By Michael Witthaus
mwitthaus@hippopress.com

A fun string of recent holiday events at Concord's Capitol Center for the Arts included the Mavericks Americana-hued Christmas show, an epic night with Mannheim Steamroller and stage productions of *Amahl and the Night Visitors* and *The Twelve Days of Christmas*.

The seasonal experience crests with a long weekend of shows featuring rock, comedy and jazz — call it the Four Days of Christmas. On Thursday, Dec. 15, the Buzz Ball marks its sixth annual show. The next day, Rocking Horse Christmas returns, for two nights, followed by Capital Jazz Orchestra's Holiday Pops Concert on Sunday, Dec. 18.

Lynne Sabeau, the venue's marketing manager, called Thursday's Buzz Ball "the ultimate holiday rock-n-roll variety show." Hosted by *Greg & the Morning Buzz*, it's the event's second year in Concord. The lineup includes several returning performers, like comic Juston McKinney and Fools singer Mike Girard, who did a great star turn in 2015.

Holiday events at the Cap

All shows are at Capitol Center for the Arts, 44 S. Main St., Concord, ccanh.com

Buzz Ball 2016

When: Thursday, Dec. 15, 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$30 & \$40

Performers: Greg & the Morning Buzz, Alex Preston, Magic Dick & Shun Ng, Adam Ezra, Jimmy Dunn, Tony V, Juston McKinney, PJ Thibodeau, Super Secret Project, Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki, Max Ater, Mike Girard, The Velvet Elves and Charles Burthoud

Rocking Horse Christmas (Spotlight Cafe)

When: Friday, Dec. 16, and Saturday, Dec. 17, 7 p.m.

Tickets: \$20

Performers: Dusty Gray, Brooks Young, Anna Madsen, Trade, Eli Autry, Hank Osborne & Chas Mitchell, Steve Blunt, Justin Cohn, Ryan Williamson, Ashley Howard-White, Jack Polidoro, Elie Rivollier and Stephanie Tonneson

Capital Jazz Orchestra Holiday Pops Concert

When: Sunday, Dec. 18, 4 p.m.

Tickets: \$20-\$45

Performers: Patty Barkas, Laura Daigle, CJ Poole and NHPR's Laura Knoy



Magic Dick and Shun Ng. Courtesy photo.

"We have some friends coming back," show promoter and mastermind Jim Roach said recently. "There are some very cool pieces. ... I'm very proud of this one." The show is a benefit for New Horizons for New Hampshire, a charity headed by TV and radio veteran Charlie Sherman.

New on the bill this year is the duo of harmonica legend Magic Dick and guitarist Shun Ng. "They'll play two songs," Roach said, "a Christmas tune and another one that's sure to be a big crowd pleaser."

Roach also touted first-timers Max Ater, a Maine singer-songwriter, and English import Charles Burthoud.

The latter may provide the biggest surprise, Roach hinted.

"I always like to do something a little weird, and this is it," he said.

Comic PJ Thibodeau, "Granite State of Mind" heroes Super Secret Project and fiddler Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki all perform, with running commentary provided by the WGIR morning drive team, led by air personality Greg Kretschmar.

"We're the kind of connective tissue through it all," Kretschmar said recently via phone.

Rocking Horse Christmas again showcases New Hampshire musicians who have worked in the past year with producer Brian Coombes at his Pittsfield studio. After three years of sellouts, a second show was added for the event, happening in the pop-up Spotlight Cafe in the CCANH lobby.

Coombes talked about the show while on location in Manchester, England, where Anna Madsen was filming a video and performing on a BBC program.

"I'm excited for the audience to see Anna perform 'O Come, O Come, Emmanuel' again," he said. "It really left the audience stunned last year."

Scott Solsky will appear with his new band, Trade.

"I'm looking forward to seeing what the local boys have been cooking up," said Coombes, adding that the group will be recording with him in January.

Solsky will be part of a "new look" house band that includes guitar wizard Myron Kibbee with fellow axe man Ian Sleeper, Adam Soucy on drums, Rick Black and Coombes both playing keyboards and bassist Chris Noyes.

Brooks Young will perform. His band is celebrating a new album made with Coombes and released earlier this month. Coombes proudly noted other Rocking Horse clients on the bill.

"Justin Cohn, Ryan Williamson, and Ashley Howard-White remind us how fortunate we are to work with such talented artists," he said. "I'm also looking forward to Steve Blunt and his guest vocalist Noelle Boc turning 'Let it Snow' into a flirty duet."

For the Sunday afternoon pops concert, the Capitol Jazz Orchestra is led by Clayton "Skip" Poole, featured vocalists are Patty Barkas, Laura Daigle and CJ Poole; NHPR host Laura Knoy returns to narrate and read *The Night Before Christmas*.

It's a fitting musical cap to a lively December run at the downtown venue. "The big band sound resonates throughout our historic Chubb Theatre," Sabeau said "It should please audiences of all ages." 🎶

SEASON'S STRINGS

New Hampshire's own Grammy Award-winning guitarist Ed Gerhard will present his popular Annual Christmas Guitar Concert in its 34th year on Friday, Dec. 16, and Saturday, Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Church (292 State St, Portsmouth).

Gerhard will perform soulful arrangements of well-loved carols, as well as his own concert favorites. Fans of guitar music and Christmas

alike will want to be a part of this memorable show.

Bring a non-perishable food item to benefit Seacoast Family Food Pantry. Tickets \$28 at virtuerecords.com.

Nite Life

Music, Comedy & Parties

• **HARVEY REID & JOYCE ANDERSON** at Flying Goose Pub & Restaurant (Corner of Rte. 114 & 11, Durham 207-363-1886) on Thursday, Dec. 15, 7:30 p.m. \$10-\$15 - 22nd Annual Holiday concert! Seacoast acoustic music luminaries intertwine their voices with Reid's guitars, autoharp and mandolins & Andersen's violin & brilliant Holiday music.

• **DAN FOGELBERG HOLIDAY TRIBUTE** at Castle on Charles (19 Charles St., Rochester) on Thursday, Dec. 15, 6 p.m. \$15 - Performed by Don Campbell is a consummate musician who was dubbed Maine's best singer-songwriter. He won the Grand Prize at the Grand Ole Opry in Nashville for his original music.

• **ED GERHARD** at UU Church (292 State St., Portsmouth 664-7200) on Friday, Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m. \$30 - One of the country's finest acoustic guitarists, Gerhard will perform soulful arrangements of well-loved carols, as well as his own concert favorites. Fans of guitar music and Christmas alike will want to be a part of this memorable show. Annual Food Drive to benefit the Seacoast Family Food Pantry. Also Dec. 17.

• **ROCKAPPELLA** at Stockbridge Theatre (44 N. Main St., Derry 437-5210) on Friday, Dec. 16, 7 p.m. \$10-\$32 From unique takes of classic favorites, to brand new originals destined to become classics; this is a holiday performance like no other. This awe-inspiring, five-man powerhouse of vocal talent is part of a long-standing holiday tradition at the Stockbridge.

• **CELTIC CHRISTMAS** at St. Luke's United Methodist Church (63 E. Broadway, Derry 422-0877) on Friday, Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m. \$15 - Christmas and other Celtic favorites with Charlie Zahm to benefit the volunteer caregiving group, Com-

munity Caregivers of Greater Derry.

• **TRISTAN OMAND** at NEC Listening Room (62 North Main St., Concord 715-2306) on Friday, Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m. Six Strings, Three Chords: Americana singer-songwriter and a special guest, as the NH native performs selections from his new LP, *The Leser-Known Tristan Omand*.

• **UNCLE STEVE BAND** at Back Room at the Mill (2 Central St., Bristol 744-0405) on Saturday, Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m. \$15 - Christmas Party Benefit with The Uncle Steve Band playing Holiday Rock, Soul, Blues to raise money for Bristol Community Services.

• **OPEN MIKE NIGHT** at Spire-side Coffee House (6 Stark Highway North, Dunbarton 744-4601) on Saturday, Dec. 17, 7:30 p.m. \$5 suggested donation - No featuree this month, with hope the extra time will allow for three-song sets instead of the usual two (will depend on the number of performers who sign up). Doors & Open Mike signups at 7.

• **ALLOY ORCHESTRA** at 3S Artspace (319 Vaughan St., Portsmouth 766-3330) on Saturday, Dec. 17, 8 p.m. \$15 - Three man musical ensemble, writing and performing live accompaniment to classic silent films. Working with an outrageous assemblage of peculiar objects, they thrash and grind soulful music from unlikely sources.

• **HOLIDAY CONCERT - SUSIE BURKE, DAVID SURETTE & KENT ALLYN** at Del Rossi's Trattoria (Route 137, Dublin 563-7195) on Saturday, Dec. 17, 6 p.m. Also 12/18, 6 p.m. Three of New England's finest present an evening of holiday music and folk favorites

• **FRESE BROTHERS BAND** at Sweeney Post (251 Maple St., Manchester 623-9145) on Tuesday, Dec. 20, 7:30 p.m. An evening of big band music and dancing, featuring vocalist Norm Blanchette singing holiday favorites.

• **ALUMNI BAND OF THE NEW HAMPSHIRE NATIONAL GUARD CHRISTMAS CONCERT** at American Legion Post #79 (35 W Brook St, Manchester 595-0955) on Wednesday, Dec. 21, 7:30 p.m. Benefit for Liberty House Music includes a selection of traditional Christmas songs like "Feliz Navidad," "Sleigh Ride" and "Fantasy on a Bell Carol," patriotic tunes and a Christmas sing-along to celebrate the season.

• **HARVEY REID & JOYCE ANDERSON** at First Parish Church (218 Central Ave, Durham 207-363-1886) on Friday, Dec. 23, 7:30 p.m. \$10-\$15 - 19th Annual Holiday concert! Seacoast acoustic music luminaries intertwine their voices with Reid's guitars, autoharp and mandolins & Andersen's violin & viola for an evening of warm & brilliant Holiday music in this historic church.

• **HAYES CARLL W/ ALLISON MOORER** at 3S Artspace (319 Vaughan St., Portsmouth 766-3330) on Friday, Dec. 30, 8 p.m. \$22 - His style of roots-oriented songwriting has been noted for its plainspoken poetry and sarcastic humor. He was nominated for a 2016 Grammy Award for Best Country Song.

• **RICK RUDE RECORD RELEASE** at 3S Artspace (319 Vaughan St., Portsmouth 766-3330) on Saturday, Jan. 7, 8 p.m. \$10 - A nocturnal creature, Rick Rude feasts on mystical fungi, boredom, mushy guitar riffs, and the delicacy of the human soul.

• **HOLIDAY PIANO CONCERT** at Dover Public Library (73 Locust St., Dover) on Saturday, Dec. 17, 11 a.m. p.m. Free - Minako Merritt and Audrey Craft perform favorites such as Jingle Bells, O Holy Night, and selections from the Nutcracker.

• **HORSZOWSKI TRIO** at Reynolds Hall (51 Concord St., Peterborough) on Saturday, Dec. 17, 4 p.m. Fundraising gala - \$75 minimum donation.

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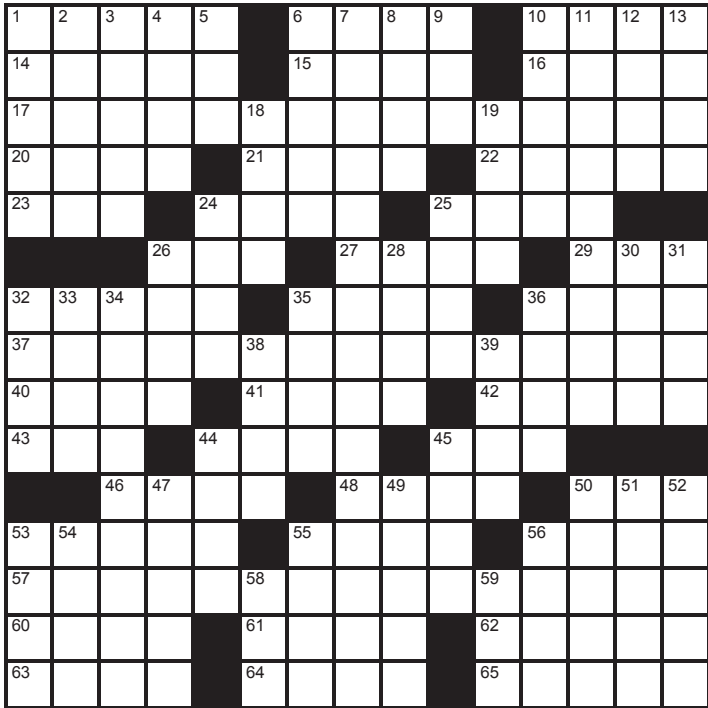
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Follow Your Puzzle

Across

- 1. Might come as a text by band site for a show
- 6. Sarah McLachlan “We are born innocent” song
- 10. Triumph “The more I get to see, the ___ I understand”
- 14. Neglected Fields song about the sun’s winds?
- 15. ‘Kiss Me Deadly’ Ford
- 16. Triumph “You’re on your own now, but you’re living out ___.” (1,3)
- 17. Bob Dylan ‘___ A-Changin’ (3,5,4,3)
- 20. They come before the “riches”



- 21. “Everyone needs a hand to hold ___” (2,2)
- 22. Vibraharp (abbr)
- 23. ___ Way You Want It
- 24. ‘___ New Day’ Will.I.Am (3,1)
- 25. 30 Seconds To Mars Jared
- 26. Greg Ginn of Black Flag’s label
- 27. Light type bar band sees on wall
- 29. Grech of Blind Faith
- 32. Zwan ‘___ Black Swan’ (4,1)
- 35. “...This killing time is wasting you, ___ see it in your eyes” (1,3)
- 36. Long-necked lute
- 37. Ramones “Twenty-four hours to go” song (1,5,2,7)
- 40. Groupie
- 41. Impose, as a parking fee
- 42. Blink-182 album ‘___ Of The State’
- 43. Questioning Reel Big Fish song?
- 44. Fly ___ The Moon (2,2)
- 45. Guns N’ Roses ‘___ Apples’
- 46. Robin Davey band The ___

12/8



- 48. Scarlett Johansson sidekick Pete
- 50. Beck ‘Odelay’ jam ‘Jack-___’
- 53. Triumph ‘___ Of Kings’
- 55. Triumph “It’s ___ at night and I can’t sleep”
- 56. 60s ‘Diana’ singer Paul
- 57. ‘00 ‘You’re An Ocean’ Fastball album ‘The ___’ (5,5,2,3)
- 60. The 88 ‘Not Only...But ___’
- 61. Kenny Chesney ‘When ___ This Bar’ (1,3)
- 62. Composed
- 63. ‘Quebec’ rockers from PA
- 64. 80s ‘Naughty Naughty’ John
- 65. Introvert musician, perhaps

Down

- 1. ‘85 Asia ‘Go’ album
- 2. Singer/actress Lindsay
- 3. ‘State Of Mind’ Dutch power metal band
- 4. Boomtown ___
- 5. ‘09 Sick Puppies ‘Maybe’ album ‘___Polar’
- 6. Robbie Williams ‘Life Thru ___’ (1,4)
- 7. ‘81 Moody Blues Gemini Dream’ album ‘Long ___’ (8,7)
- 8. Triumph “Shout it from the rooftops, sing ___ the sky” (2,2)
- 9. “NOW I know this song!”
- 10. Triumph ‘___ On The Line’ (3,2)
- 11. Like very lavish show
- 12. With Warner or Elektra, at times
- 13. ‘Loose Threads’ Jonas ___ In Color
- 18. ___ The Hoople

- 19. Balanced Dispatch song?
- 24. Irish rockers God ___ Astronaut (2,2)
- 25. 70s rockers ___ Star
- 26. INXS ‘Heaven ___’
- 28. Kind of ‘Life’ Triumph will kick back and live
- 30. What Chrissie Hynde and Ray Davies were
- 31. ‘82 Led Zep album
- 32. She’s ‘Lovely’ to Beatles
- 33. Rod Stewart “___ only joking, my dear” (1,3)
- 34. ‘74 George Harrison album for the stables? (4,5)
- 35. ___ You Look Good On The Dancefloor (1,3)
- 36. Remember (Walking In The ___)
- 38. Drummer Van Halen
- 39. Rat Pack crooner Martin
- 44. ‘You Do The ___’ Brad Paisley
- 45. Flight Of The Conchords’ McKenzie
- 47. ‘Bright Idea’ #1ers inspired by Welles?
- 49. Pearl Jam ‘___ Side’
- 50. Avett Brothers ‘It Goes On ___’ (3,2)
- 51. Gliding Finch song?
- 52. ‘More Than I Can Say’ Leo
- 53. Tommy of Styx
- 54. Procol Harum had a ‘Whiter Shade Of’ this
- 55. Prince’s Wendy And ___
- 56. Hendrix’ locks
- 58. James Taylor ‘Oh Baby, Don’t You Loose Your ___ On Me’
- 59. Inspired The Who’s name?



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Newport

Salt Hill Pub
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Peterborough

Harlow's Pub
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Pelham

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Pittsfield

Molly's Tavern
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Fody's: Josh Logan Trio
Fratello's: Clint Lapointe
Riverwalk Cafe: Rob Flax's One Man Band
Shorty's: Austin Pratt

Newmarket

Stone Church: Irish Music w/ Jordan Tirrell-Wysocki & Jim Prendergast

Peterborough

Harlow's: Bluegrass Night

Plaistow

Racks: Rock Jam w/ Dave Thompson

Portsmouth

Dolphin Striker: Lester Knox
Fat Belly's: DJ Flex
Portsmouth Book & Bar: Celia Woodsmith & Chris Hersch
Press Room: Lonesome Lunch with Dave Talmage/ COSMAL, Zoo Logic, Daze Inn
Red Door: Green Lion Crew
Rudi's: Dimitri
Thirsty Moose: Queen City Soul

Seabrook

Chop Shop: Spent Fuel

Weare

Stark House: Lisa Guyer Solo

Windham

Common Man: Jenni Lynn Duo

Friday, Dec. 16

Auburn

Auburn Pitts: Blacklite Band

Belmont

Lakes Region Casino: DJ Mark

Boscawen

Alan's: Maven Jamz

Bradford

Appleseed Restaurant: Andrew Merzi

Bridgewater

Bridgewater Inn: Shameless

Claremont

Taverne on the Square: Kid Pinky

Concord

Makris: Classic Invasion
Pit Road Lounge: Buried Alive! Multi-band show
Tandy's: DJ Iceman Streetz (105.5 JYY)
True Brew: Granite State Revival

Contoocook

Covered Bridge: Eugene Durkee

Derry

Coffee Factory: Dave LaCroix
Hilltop Spot: Another Shot

Dover

Cara: Club Night w/ DJ Shawunny O

Dover Brickhouse: The Scandals/A Minor Revolution/ Zero Holds

Fury's: Maganahan's Revival
Top of the Chop: Funkadelic Fridays

Epping

Holy Grail: Dan Walker
Telly's: Annual Christmas Party

Epsom

Hilltop Pizzeria: Nicole Knox Murphy

Francetown

Toll Booth Tavern: Boogie Men

Gilford

Patrick's: Dueling Pianos - Andre Balazs & Gardner Barry
Schuster's: Kevin Hacket

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Brian Maes

Hampton

CR's: Rico Barr Duo

NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Savory Square: Dave Gerard
Wally's Pub: Shakedown

Hanover
Canoe Club: Sabrina Brown & Fred Haas
Salt Hill Pub: Jim Hollis

Henniker
Country Spirit: Reid Trevaskis

Hillsborough
Mama McDonough's: Joel Cage

Hooksett
Asian Breeze: Off Duty Angels

Hudson
AJ's: Crave

Lebanon
Salt Hill Pub: B-3 Brotherhood

Londonderry
Coach Stop: Kim Riley

Manchester
British Beer: John Hasnip & the Court Jesters
Bungalow: Trading Heroes For Ghosts/Hivemind/Regime
City Sports Grille: DJ Dave
Derryfield: Among The Living
Foundry: Chad Verbeck
Fratello's: Rick Watson
Jewel: Sam Grow/Alec MacGillivray
ManchVegas: Jodie Cunningham
Murphy's Taproom: Molly Macguires
Penuche's: Superfrog
Strange Brew: Racky Thomas
Whiskey's 20: DJs Jason Spivak & Sammy Smoove
Wild Rover: Mugsy Duo

Meredith
Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois

Merrimack
Homestead: Marc Apostolides
Jade Dragon: Christmas w/ John Paul & Friends

Milford
J's Tavern: 21st And 1st
Pasta Loft: Take 4
Tiebreakers: Brad Bosse

Nashua
Arena: DJ Thomas Dimitri
Boston Billiard Club: Elijah Clark

Country Tavern: Joe McDonald
Dolly Shakers: Point of Entry
Fratello's Italian Grille: Paul Luff
Haluwa: Double Take
O'Shea's: Olde Salt
Riverwalk Cafe: Ervin Dhimo Trio
Stella Blu: Rumble Fish

New Boston
Molly's: The Hallorans/Ed Chenoweth

Newbury
Salt Hill Pub: Arthur James

Newmarket
Riverworks: Jim Dozet
Stone Church: Harsh Armadillo w/ Skyfoot

Newport
Salt hill Pub Newport: Sirsy

Peterborough
Harlow's: Gang of Thieves/Shokazoba
La Mia Casa: Sonic Pulse / My Missing Half / Graviton / Dyhanna

Plaistow
Crow's Nest: Hott Commodity

Portsmouth
Dolphin Striker: The Groove Cats
Grill 28: Mark Lapointe
Martingale Wharf: Jimmy & Marcelle
Portsmouth Book & Bar: Soggy Po' Boys
Portsmouth Gaslight: DJ Koko/Kevin Burt /Johnny Angel
Press Room: Press Room Jazz Lunch/People Like You/The Tercet
Red Door: DJ Jon Merwin
Ri Ra: Now is Now
Rudi's: Bryan Killough Trio
Thirsty Moose: Cover Story

Rochester
Magrilla's: Matt Langley
Radloff's: Dancing Madly Backwards Duo

Seabrook
Chop Shop: Doubleshot

Warner
The Local: 3rd Annual Christmas Show w/ Brad Myrick

Saturday, Dec. 17
Bedford
Shorty's: Sonic Boomers
Belmont
Lakes Region Casino: Eric Grant Band - Christmas Party

Boscawen
Alan's: Natalie Turgeon

Bristol
Purple Pit: George Stevens/Richard Gardzina Trio

Concord
Area 23: Acoustasaurus
Hermanos: Paul Speidel
Penuche's Ale House: Amorphous
Pit Road Lounge: Channel 3
Tandy's: DJ Iceman Streetz (105.5 JYY)

Contoocook
Covered Bridge: Tony O Band

Derry
Hilltop Spot: Lisa Guyer

Dover
Cara: Club Night w/ DJ Shawwny O
Fury's Publick House: Freestones

Dublin
DelRossi's Trattoria: Susie Burke & David Surette

Epping
Holy Grail: Rob & Dan
Telly's: Rob & Jody

Gilford
Patrick's: Tribute to Billy Joel: Jim Tyrrell
Schuster's: Dan the Muzak Man

Goffstown
Village Trestle: Facedown(Ugly Sweater Party)

Hampton
Community Oven: Ryan Fitzsimmons
Savory Square: Mel & John
Wally's Pub: Wildside

Hanover
Canoe Club: Tim Utt & Barbara Blaisdell
Salt Hill Pub: Supernothing

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COMEDY THIS WEEK AND BEYOND

Friday, Dec. 16
Londonderry
Tupelo Music Hall: Christine Hurley & Ryan Gartley

Saturday, Dec. 17
Manchester
Headliners: Brad Mas-trangelo

Newmarket
Stone Church: Collen Doyle/Dylan Krasinski/CJ Browne

Monday, Dec. 19
Concord
Penuche's: Punchlines

Tuesday, Dec. 20
Derry
Hilltop Spot: Comedy on Purpose - Alana Susko

Wednesday, Dec. 21
Manchester
Murphy's Taproom: Laugh Free Or Die Open Mic

Shaskeen: Joe List/Sarah Tollemache

Merrimack
Pacific Fusion: Comedy on Purpose

Thursday, Dec. 22
Nashua
Fody's: Greg Boggis hosts showcase

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Hudson

River's Pub: Radio Star

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Salt Hill Pub: Sullivan Davis
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Londonderry

Coach Stop: Jeff Mrozek

Manchester

City Sports Grille: J.C. Underhill

Derryfield: Chad LaMarsh Band

Foundry: Brien Sweet

Fratello's: Steve Tolley

Jewel: Metal New England

Karma: Alan Roux

ManchVegas: Never In Vegas

Midnight Rodeo: Walkin' the Line

Murphy's Taproom: Connipation Fits

Penuche's: Fennario

Salona: DJ Dave - Annual Xmas Party

Shaskeen: Masta Killa (Wu-Tang Clan)

Strange Brew: Gravel Project

Whiskey's 20: DJ Hizzy/Shawn White

Wild Rover: John Ridlon Duo

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Paul Connor & Lou Porrazzo

Merrimack

Homestead: Marc Apostolides
Jade Dragon: Manchuka

Milford

J's Tavern: 21st And 1st

Pasta Loft: DJ J Styles

Union Coffee: Bob Arpin Jazz Duo

Nashua

Agave Azul: DJ Roberto Tropical Saturday

Boston Billiard Club: DJ Anthem Throwback

Country Tavern: Charlie Christos

Fody's: Razzle

Fratello's Italian Grille:

Lachlan Maclearn

Haluwa: Double Take

O'Shea's: 3 Old Guys

Riverwalk Cafe: Tim Gearan Band w. Phileep

Stella Blu: Wood, Wind, and Whiskey

Thirsty Turtle: Holiday Party w/ Perfect Entertainment

New Boston

Molly's: Justin Cohn/Dan Murphy

Newbury

Salt Hill Pub: Club Soda

Newmarket

Stone Church: 7 Below - A Tribute to Phish

Newport

Salt hill Pub: Tirade

Peterborough

La Mia Casa: Sonic Pulse / My Missing Half / Graviton / Dyhanna

Portsmouth

Blue Mermaid: Pete Peterson Duo

Cafe Nostimo: James Gilmore

Dolphin Striker: Good Lord the Lifting

Fat Belly's: DJ Provo

Martingale Wharf: Tim Theriault & Jamie DeCato

Portsmouth Book & Bar: Ellis Paul

Portsmouth Gaslight: DJ Koko /Tim Gurshin /Chris White

Press Room: Press Room Jazz Lunch/People Like You/The Tercet

Red Door: DJ Ryan Obermiller

Ri Ra: Lestah Polyestah

Rudi's: Jarrod Steer Trio

Thirsty Moose: Groovin' You

White Heron: Poor Howard

Raymond

Cork n Keg: Studio Two

Rochester

Magrilla's: Chris Lester

Smokey's Tavern: Poor

Howard & The Bullfrog

Sunday, Dec. 18

Bedford

Copper Door: Marc Apostolides

Concord

Hermanos: Eric Chase

Dover

Cara: Irish Session w/ Carol Coronis & Ramona Connelly

Dover Brickhouse: Jazz Brunch

Sonny's: Sonny's Jazz

Gilford

Schuster's: Dan the Muzak Man

Goffstown

Village Trestle: Wan-tu Blues Band & Jam

Hanover

Canoe Club: Marko the Magician

Hudson

River's Pub: Acoustic Jam

Manchester

Jewel: Lone Wolf James/ Mindset X/Black River Union/ A Simple Complex

Shaskeen: Rap night, Industry night

Strange Brew: Jam

Wild Rover: DJ Dance Nite

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Open Stage with Lou Porrazzo

Milford

Union Coffee: Celtic Christmas with Murphy & Clark

Nashua

Agave Azul: DJ Rich - Smokin' Sunday

Riverwalk Cafe: Matt Savage's Groove Experiment

Newmarket

Stone Church: Bluegrass Bureaux Cats

Portsmouth

Dolphin Striker: Joel Cage

Red Door: Trap Night w/ Adfero & Yung Abner

Ri Ra: Irish Session

Rudi's: Jazz Brunch With Ms. Sharon Jones

Rochester

Lilac City Grille: Brunch Music @9:30

Monday, Dec. 19

Concord

Hermanos: John Franzosa

Hampton

Community Oven: Elijah Clark

Hanover

Canoe Club: Marko the Magician

Salt hill Pub: Hootenanny

Manchester

Central Ale House: Jonny

Friday Duo

Fratello's: Rob Wolfe or Phil Jacques

Meredith

Giuseppe's: Lou Porrazzo

Merrimack

Homestead: Chris Cavanaugh

Nashua

Dolly Shakers: Monday's Muse w Lisa Guyer

Fratello's Italian Grille: Bob Rutheford

Newmarket

Stone Church: Blues Jam w/ Wild Eagles Blues Band

GET THE CROWDS AT YOUR GIG

Want to get your show listed in the Music This Week? Let us know all about your upcoming show, comedy show, open mike night or multi-band event by sending all the information to music@hippopress.com. Send information by 9 a.m. on Friday to have the event considered for the next Thursday's paper.

NITE CONCERTS

Capitol Center for the Performing Arts & Spotlight Cafe 44 S. Main St., Concord 225-1111, ccanh.com The Colonial Theatre 95 Main St., Keene 352-2033, thecolonial.org Dana Humanities Center 100 Saint Anselm Drive, Manchester 641-7700, anselm.edu/dana The Flying Monkey 39 S. Main St., Plymouth	536-2551, flyingmonkeynh.com Franklin Opera House 316 Central St., Franklin 934-1901, franklinoperahouse.org The Music Hall 28 Chestnut St., Portsmouth 436-2400, themusichall.org The Music Hall Loft 131 Congress St., Portsmouth 436-2400, themusichall.org Palace Theatre 80 Hanover St., Manchester 668-5588, palacetheatre.org	Rochester Opera House 31 Wakefield St., Rochester 335-1992, rochesteroperahouse.com SNHU Arena 555 Elm St., Manchester 644-5000, snhuarena.com Stockbridge Theatre Pinkerton Academy, Route 28, Derry 437-5210, stockbridgetheatre.com Tupelo Music Hall 2 Young Road, Londonderry 437-5100, tupelohall.com
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Buzz Ball Thursday, Dec. 15, 8 p.m. Cap Center Paul Bielatowicz & Simon Fitzpatrick Thursday, Dec. 15, 8 p.m. Tupelo Christmas With Rocking Horse Studio Friday, Dec. 16, 8 p.m. Cap Center Kent Stephens' The Ragpicker's Dream Saturday, Dec. 17, 1:30 p.m. Music Hall Loft Quinn Sullivan Saturday, Dec. 17, 8 p.m. Tupelo Christmas With Rocking Horse Studio Saturday, Dec. 17, 8 p.m. Cap Center Capitol Jazz Orchestra Sunday, Dec. 18, 8 p.m. Cap Center Ronan Tynan Sunday, Dec. 18, 7 p.m. Palace Theatre Chanukah at the Palace Monday, Dec. 19, 7:30 p.m. Palace Theatre	Recycled Percussion Tuesday, Dec. 27, 8 p.m. Rochester Opera House Recycled Percussion (2 shows daily 12/30-1/1 & 4 p.m. Jan. 2) Palace Theatre Kashmir (Led Zeppelin tribute) Wednesday, Jan. 4, 8 p.m. Rochester Opera House Cherry Poppin' Daddies Thursday, Jan. 5, 8 p.m. Tupelo Entrain Friday, Jan. 6, 8 p.m. Tupelo 3 Redneck Tenors Friday, Jan. 6, 7:30 p.m. Palace Theatre Who's Bad: Ultimate Michael Jackson Tribute Band Saturday, Jan. 7, 7:30 p.m. Palace Theatre Davina & the Vagabonds Saturday, Jan. 14, 8 p.m. Tupelo	Leo Kottke & Keller Williams Saturday, Jan. 14, 8 p.m. Colonial Theatre Dietrich Strause with the Blue Ribbons Saturday, Jan. 14, 8 p.m. Music Hall Loft Moondance: Tribute to Van Morrison Saturday, Jan. 14, 7:30 p.m. Palace Theatre Get the Led Out Saturday, Jan. 14, 8 p.m. Cap Center 1964-Beatles Tribute Sunday, Jan. 15, 7:30 p.m. Palace Theatre Pat Metheny Tuesday, Jan. 17, 8 p.m. Music Hall Marc Broussard Friday, Jan. 20, 8 p.m. Tupelo Decades Rewind (also 1/26) Wednesday, Jan. 25, 8 p.m. Cap Center
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NITE MUSIC THIS WEEK

Portsmouth Dolphin Striker: Old School Press Room: Randy Roos' Urethane Ri Ra: Oran Mor	Newmarket Stone Church: SpeakEazy: Church Street Jazz Band / Bluegrass Jam Late	Hillsborough Turismo: Blues Jam w Jerry Paquette & the Runaway Bluesmen
Tuesday, Dec. 20 Concord Hermanos: Kid Pinky Kombo	North Hampton Barley House Seacoast: Traditional Irish Session	Londonderry Coach Stop: Brad Bosse
Dover Fury's Publick House: Tim Theriault and Friends Sonny's: Soggy Po' Boys	Peterborough Harlow's: Celtic Music Jam	Manchester Fratello's: Nate Comp Strange Brew: Open Jam - Tom Ballerini Blues Band
Gilford Patrick's: Paul Luff hosts (feat artist Drew Seneca & Tom Dundee)	Portsmouth Dolphin Striker: Dave Gerard Press Room: Jazz Jam w/ Larry Garland & Friends	Meredith Giuseppe's: Justin Jaymes
Hanover Canoe Club: Bruce Gregori	Seabrook Chop Shop: Bare Bones	Merrimack Homestead: Bob Rutherford
Manchester Fratello's: Jeff Mrozek Shaskeen: Walker Smith Strange Brew: Brad Bosse Whiskey's 20: Sammy Smoove & DJ Gera	Wednesday, Dec. 21 Concord Hermanos: Kid Pinky Kombo	Nashua Country Tavern: Mark Huzar Fratello's Italian Grille: Ryan Williamson
Meredith Giuseppe's: Michael Bourgeois	Dover Fury's Publick House: Feel Goods	Plaistow Racks: DJ Sensations
Merrimack Homestead: Clint Lapointe	Dublin DelRossi's Trattoria: Celtic and Old Timey Jam Session	Portsmouth Dolphin Striker: Dave Gerard Press Room: Jerry Tillet Red Door: Red On Red w/ Evaredy (Service Industry Night) Ri Ra: Erin's Guild Rudi's: Dimitri
Nashua Fratello's Italian Grille: Justin Cohn	Gilford Patrick's: Cody James - Ladies Night	Rochester Lilac City Grille: Tim Theriault - Ladies Night
	Hanover Canoe Club: Lucy Chapin/Lowell Thompson/Tyler Bowles	

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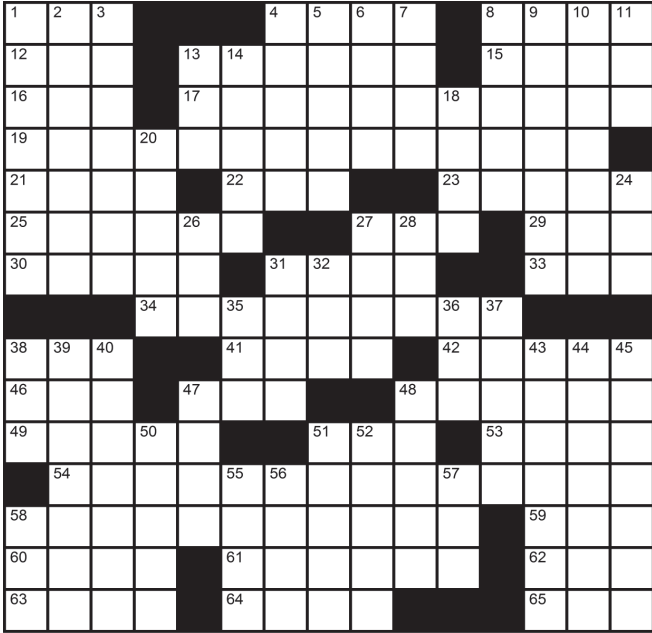
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“Believe It” — or not

Across

- 1 Sushi fish also called yellowtail
- 4 Amount a cab driver gives to you
- 8 “___ O’Riley” (“CSI: Miami” theme song)
- 12 Participated in racewalking
- 13 Like a serrano pepper, compared to a poblano
- 15 Olmert who preceded Ariel Sharon as Prime Minister of Israel
- 16 Mitsubishi off-road three-wheeler,

- for example
- 17 Exact quote from Gordon Gekko in “Wall Street”
- 19 Catchphrase spoken verbatim on the original “Star Trek” series
- 21 “La ___ Bonita” (U.S. #1 hit for Madonna)
- 22 ___ & Literacy (brown category in Trivial Pursuit)
- 23 Army service call used by Al Paci-

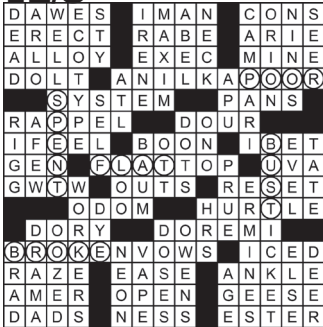


- no in all of his movies (not just “Scent of a Woman”)
- 25 Used an old phrase
- 27 “Winnie-the-Pooh” marsupial parent
- 29 202.5 deg. on the compass
- 30 Conjunction that’s spelled with a backslash
- 31 “Better Call ___” (spin-off sequel to “Breaking Bad”)
- 33 Creatures proven to be found at Area 51, for short
- 34 Process scrupulously utilized by all news outlets (which I obviously didn’t do with a single clue in this puzzle)
- 38 Abbr. from the Latin for “and many more”
- 41 Drink produced by the real-life brand Heisler
- 42 Nobel Peace ___ (award given in Stockholm)
- 46 Hundred Years’ ___ (which lasted less than 100 years)
- 47 Suffix meaning “doctrine” which is

- not a valid Scrabble word by itself
- 48 One of the original Three Musket- teers, along with D’Artagnan
- 49 Beginning-of-term activities
- 51 Meat ___ (“Aqua Teen Hunger Force” character with three teeth)
- 53 RNs report to them
- 54 Famous Greta Garbo line from “Grand Hotel”
- 58 Idiom taken directly from Shake- speare’s “King John”
- 59 ___ Tin Tin (movie German shep- herd originally played by a female)
- 60 Universal plasma donor’s blood type, for short
- 61 Shout of the recently incarcerated
- 62 Tic-___-Dough
- 63 Shrek in the movie series, but not in the original William Steig book
- 64 Did 100 kph in a 70 mph zone, e.g.
- 65 Opposite direction from 29-Across

- 11 Use the minus button
- 13 “Citizen Kane” studio
- 14 “___ the news today, oh no” (Bea- tles lyric)
- 18 Neighborhood in London’s East End
- 20 Time ___ the Year (selection made since the magazine’s inception)
- 24 “___ Like the Wind” (“Dirty Danc- ing” song)
- 26 Phanerozoic, for one
- 27 West-side tributary of the Rhine
- 28 Cheer for a pescador
- 31 Boat part furthest away from the bow
- 32 Card played last in a winning game of Klondike solitaire
- 35 “Santa Barbara” ailer, once
- 36 Three-word EMT skill, for short
- 37 Jazz artist Diana who married Elvis Presley
- 38 Bo Sheep in “U.S. Acres,” for one
- 39 Airplane activity that takes place in the air
- 40 Night ___ (“X-Men” character aka Hank McCoy)
- 43 Toyotas and Subarus, in Japan
- 44 Flowers that repel hummingbirds
- 45 Sister magazine of Ebony
- 47 Lives and breathes
- 48 Singer of the “Spectre” theme song
- 50 Palmolive spokesperson played by three different actresses
- 51 Tom whose second novel was “The Bonfire of the Vanities”
- 52 “... It’s ___! It’s Superman!”
- 55 “Analyze ___” (2002 sequel)
- 56 Permanent worker
- 57 Negative vote
- 58 Nickelodeon’s trademark slime

12/8



Down

- 1 Coffee bean that yields more caffeine than its counterpart
- 2 Venerates, slangily
- 3 Like an unexpired coupon
- 4 Flower, south of the Pyrenees
- 5 Bungling
- 6 Semillon and Riesling, for two
- 7 Speaker of the first line of the first epi- sode of “South Park”
- 8 “Ain’t Too Proud, ___ Differ” (Temp- tations hit)
- 9 What an Australian weatherman may say “it’s gonna be” on an August day
- 10 Like boulders

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12/8

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6	3	8	4	9	7	2	5	1
5	1	2	6	8	3	9	4	7
4	5	3	1	6	8	7	9	2
2	9	1	7	3	4	8	6	5
8	6	7	5	2	9	1	3	4
3	4	6	9	7	1	5	2	8
7	2	5	8	4	6	3	1	9
1	8	9	3	5	2	4	7	6

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Ecret-say ode-kay

American gangsters traditionally use euphemisms and nicknames ("Chin," "The Nose") to disguise criminal activities, but among details revealed at a November murder trial in Sydney, Australia, was that members of the "Brothers 4 Life" gang might have used "pig latin." In a phone-tapped conversation played in court, one of the men on trial was overheard cunningly telling a henchman that a colleague had been "caught with the un-gay in the ar-kay." A helpful witness then took the stand to explain to the jury that the defendant thus knew there was "a gun in the car." At press time, the trial was still in progress.

Not the first time it's happened

• An "academic" paper composed entirely of gibberish was accepted for a lecture at the International Conference on Atomic and Nuclear Physics in Atlanta last month. Prof. Christoph Bartneck of New Zealand's University of Canterbury said he began writing (using Apple iOS) by entering "atomic" and "nuclear" into his tablet and "randomly" following whatever "autocomplete" suggestions emerged. (Sample sentence: "The atoms of a better universe will have the right for the same as you are the way we shall have to be a great place..." Conclusion: "Power is not a great place for a good time.")

• Divorcing couples who cannot decide who gets to keep a treasured family home leave the decision to a judge, and in October, a court in Moscow ordered a couple to build a brick wall dividing in two their expensive house in an elite neighborhood. Apparently contractors' measurements have been taken, and the couple has assumed dominion over their respective areas, even to the extent that a friend of the wife had become "trapped" on the husband's side and prevented from leaving until she called emergency services. Furthermore, the wife must have a second stairway built, as the existing one is on the husband's side.

• A 23-year-old man in Tampa, Florida, was hanging out with his cousin in September, and nearby were a gun and a bulletproof vest and the result was predictable. According to police, the first man donned the vest and said he wondered whether it "still worked"; the cousin picked up the gun and said, "Let's see." The cousin, Alexandro Garibaldi, 24, was charged with manslaughter.

• Judges can issue "material witness" warrants to lock up innocent people to ensure their trial testimony but rarely do it to actual crime victims. In December 2015, the Houston, Texas, district attorney obtained such a warrant jailing a rape victim ("Jenny") to secure her testimony against a serial rapist she could identify, because Jenny, exceptionally fragile, was hesitant. She finally took the

stand, and the rapist is now serving multiple life terms, but Jenny's added trauma (especially since police mistakenly placed her into the jail's general population instead of a separate wing) provoked her to file a lawsuit against the DA, which is still in progress. And in November, likely to Jenny's satisfaction, the DA, Devon Anderson, failed re-election.

• Another animal survives with mouth-to-mouth: In November, an 18-year-old man who allegedly tried to steal koi carp fish from a holding tank (pending their return to a pond at Castle Park in Colchester, England) botched the job, resulting in the deaths of most of them, including some of the oldest and most visitor-friendly of the species. Park rangers managed to rescue several, and one ranger even gave mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to three carp. (A biologist told BBC News that carp are noted for surviving on low oxygen and might not have needed the mouth-to-mouth.)

• Most couples who create embryos to freeze for the future agree that the consent of both is required for actual use. Two former couples are on opposite sides of the issue: Actor Sofia Vergara's ex-boyfriend wants their embryo brought to term (but she does not), and Missouri woman Jalesia McQueen wants two she created with then-husband Justin Gadberry brought to term (but he does not). In the latter case, an appeals court ruled for Gadberry in November (though the couple already have two children from frozen embryos). In the Vergara case, the ex, Nick Loeb, is trying for an extraordinary court ruling based on his "inability to otherwise procreate" (since two subsequent girlfriends adamantly chose abortions).

• Victims in News of the Weird stories have been hit by "flying" animals that should not be airborne even once by a cow (falling off a cliff) and once by a horse (that fell from a trailer on a highway overpass). On Nov. 17, in Clarksville, Tennessee, an unassuming pedestrian along Dover Road was smacked by a deer that sailed into him after it collided with a minivan. The pedestrian was taken to the hospital with broken bones.

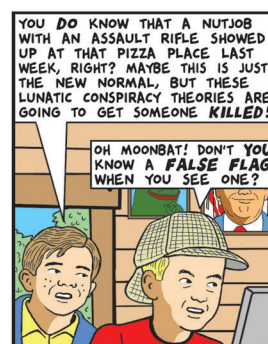
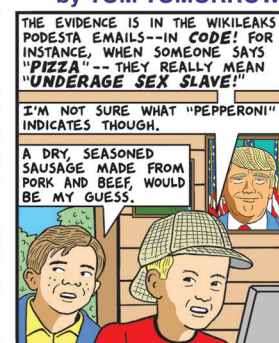
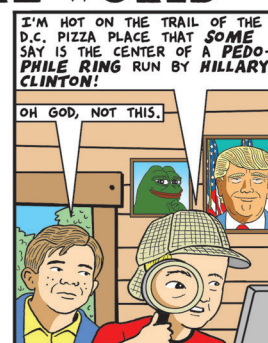
• The debate over whether animals have "rights" enforceable by judges took a sharp turn upward in November when a judge in Argentina ordered the reluctant Mendoza Zoo to release a chimpanzee (Cecilia) to a sanctuary in Brazil because the zoo had denied her the "right" to animal "essence" to socialize with other chimps (since her last two playmates had died more than two years earlier). Mendoza Zoo was heavily criticized following the death last summer of Arturo, dubbed the "world's saddest polar bear," since he had suffered an even worse fate, with no playmates for 22 years.

• In America, tens of thousands of pedestrians are hit by cars every year, but rare is the driver who runs over himself. Periodically, News of the Weird updates readers: In October in Orlando, William Edwards, 28, leaving the Dancer's Royale strip club at 2:30 a.m., started his truck, drove, fell out, had it run over his leg, and saw the truck drift down a street and into a home, injuring the occupant. Earlier in October, a 25-year-old man in Scugog, Ontario, backing his car down his driveway with the door open, fell out, had it run over his leg, and saw it hit two mailbox posts. (Both times, as in nearly every similar case, alcohol was involved.)

Visit weirduniverse.net.

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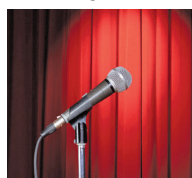


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\$25-\$35
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MARCIA BALL



**Sun.,
February 19**

7:00 p.m.
\$30-\$45
RS-Theatre

ULI JON ROTH



**Sun.,
March 12**

7:00 p.m.
\$45-\$55
RS-Theatre

**PUDDLE OF MUD,
SAVING ABLE & TANTRIC**

Come Clean Tour 2017



**Sat.,
March 18**

8:00 p.m.
\$60-\$75
RS-Theatre

**CANDLEBOX
ACOUSTIC**



**Thurs.,
March 23**

8:00 p.m.
\$35-\$45
RS-Theatre

**ALAN DOYLE
And The Beautiful Gypsies**



**Sun.,
March 26**

7:00 p.m.
\$40-\$45
RS-Theatre

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